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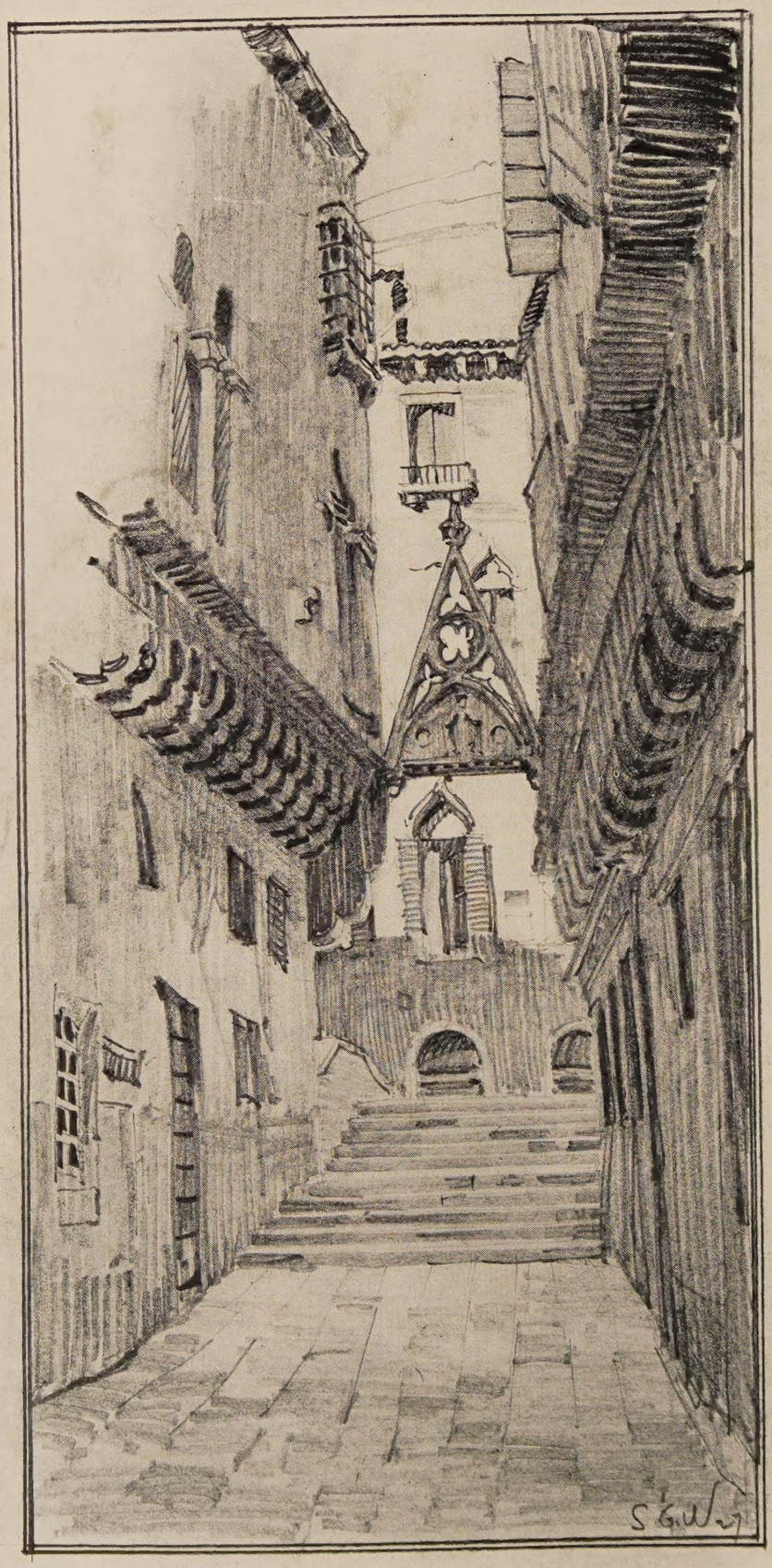

NARROW STREET IN VENICE

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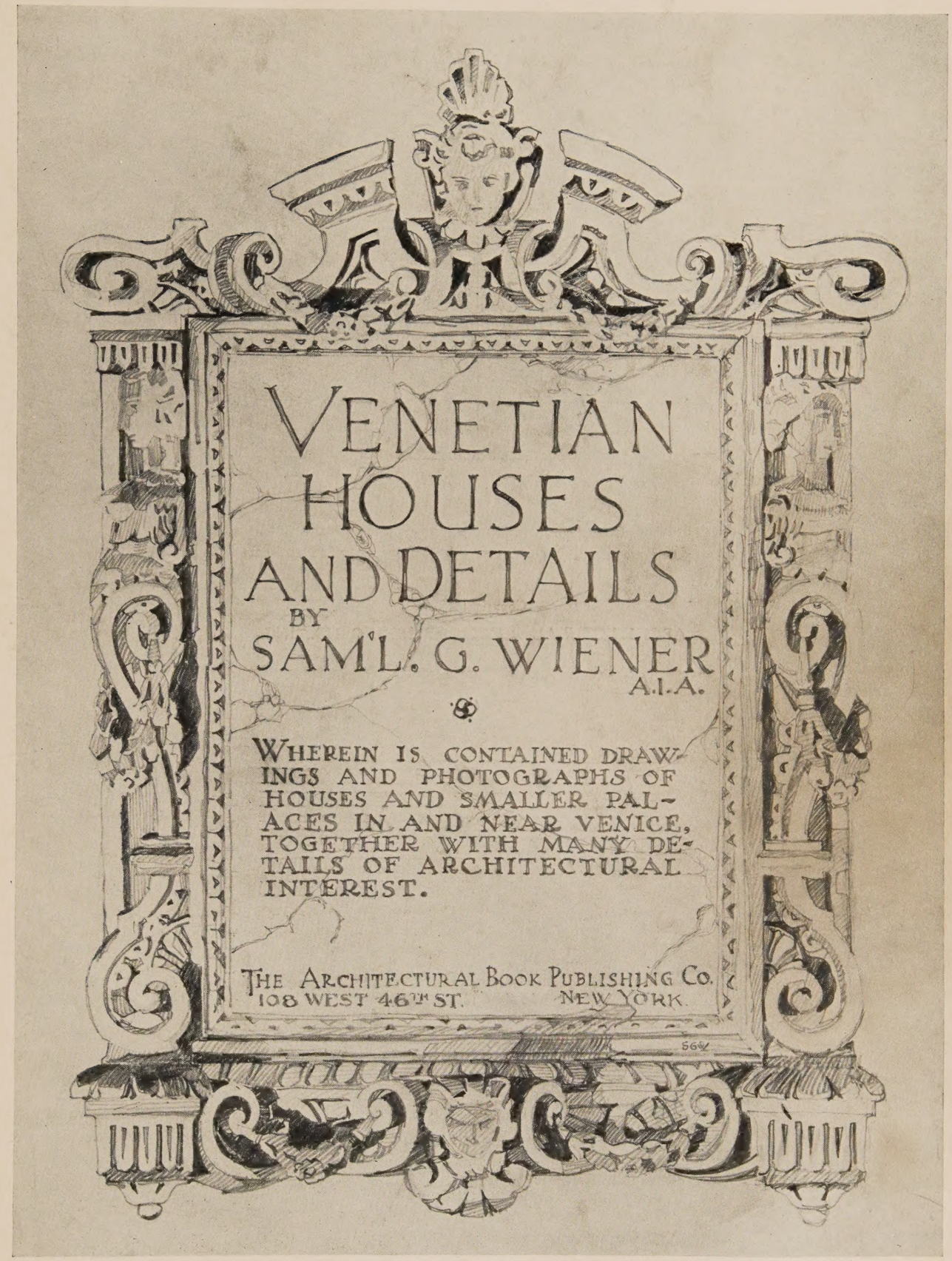

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INTRODUCTION

The domestic architecture of Venice represents an unbroken tradition of seven or eight hundred years, to which every style from the Byzantine to the Baroque has made its contribution without interrupting continuity. The palaces of the Canal, the villas of the terra firma, even the simple farm houses, are full of suggestion, not only in composition, but in the sympathetic handling of materials. The great publications of Ongania and Paoletti are inaccessible to the ordinary designer, and he will welcome the assemblage of photographs and sketches which Mr. Wiener has brought together.

Particularly interesting are the detailed photographs of single features, such as windows, balconies, balustrades, doors, together with sketches of chimney tops, ironwork, and other elements.

To one who remembers Mr. Wiener's admirable draughtsmanship, even from his student years, it is a pleasure to see his name on the title page of this interesting book.

FISKE KIMBALL.

FOREWORD

SO MUCH has been written of Venetian architecture that it is hardly possible to add anything of interest or value to the mass of material already accessible. Ruskin has covered the subject minutely and others have described the well-known monuments and palaces with ponderous tomes of photographs and drawings. The picturesque quality of Venetian scenes are familiar to all. The canals, narrow streets and island towns have been an attraction for artists for centuries.

Fortunately, Venice stands today, one of the best preserved of the ancient cities, and, with comparatively few exceptions, her loveliness has not been marred by the inroads of modern necessity or indifference. Here is an entrancing city, born of the sea, always as strange as it is beautiful to the rest of the world. Founded by refugees who built their thatched wood huts on piles out in the shallow water, Venice never recognized what might have been the handicap of its peculiar isolation. The haven flourished and became an important Adriatic port. The miraculous growth of its maritime power made it the most important city of the middle ages, and inspired by the unique situation it became the most alluring.

This venerable republic on the lagoons was productive of a life and art that was distinctly different from that of surrounding states. Of course, the architecture was influenced by conditions resulting from its divers contacts, as well as the peculiar situation. Naval wars in the East and with competitive Italian ports served to enrich its art with much that was foreign. From Byzantium the Venetians brought new ideas of plan and construction, and the influence of oriental decoration is readily seen. Eastern artists were imported to work on their buildings. Columns, sculpture and all kinds of objects of art were loaded into their galleys to be brought home.

The Byzantine style was expressed with a freedom not to be found elsewhere in Europe, and it is significant that the forms differed from the source. The same is true of the architecture of other periods that reached Venice. The Gothic and Renaissance styles are also translated into apparently careless compositions which seem to mock the scholarly monuments of Florence and Rome, and compel a new classification. The contemporary style is discernible, but it is always faithful to those delightful qualites that are called Venetian. Here we find architectural irreverence combined with a superb artistic ability that cannot be paralleled elsewhere. That kind of majesty that was Roman, and the perfection that the Renaissance in Florence left to us is not to be looked

for in Venetia. For him who loves buildings created in a light-hearted spirit these canals and passages will offer endless enjoyment; here he will find facades of a festive loveliness that would delight an Oriental. If the joy of life can be expressed in compositions of marble and brick, he can find it here, for the Venetians knew no law but that the eyes of the beholder must be delighted.

The illustrations contained in this book give some idea of what may have been the Venetians' attitude toward their building. The value of their architecture to the modern designer is not the offering of a wealth of curiously beautiful details to be copied that they may grace our modern buildings. Venetian architecture can teach us that buildings can be beautiful without being grave, and they can delight us with their delicate charm and flaunting disregard of established principles without becoming trivial.

With the exception of the illustrations of the larger palaces, I believe that nearly all of the material is shown here for the first time. Many of the buildings and details were found in obscure places, and some of the interesting subjects were brought to my attention by natives familiar with their architecture. Appreciation is especially due the Superintendent of Fine Arts of Venetia, and to Arch. Guido Pellizarri, for introducing me to much that would never have been found. Three of the drawings were made by my brother William B. Wiener, and a large proportion of the photographs, especially of rural subjects, were taken by him.

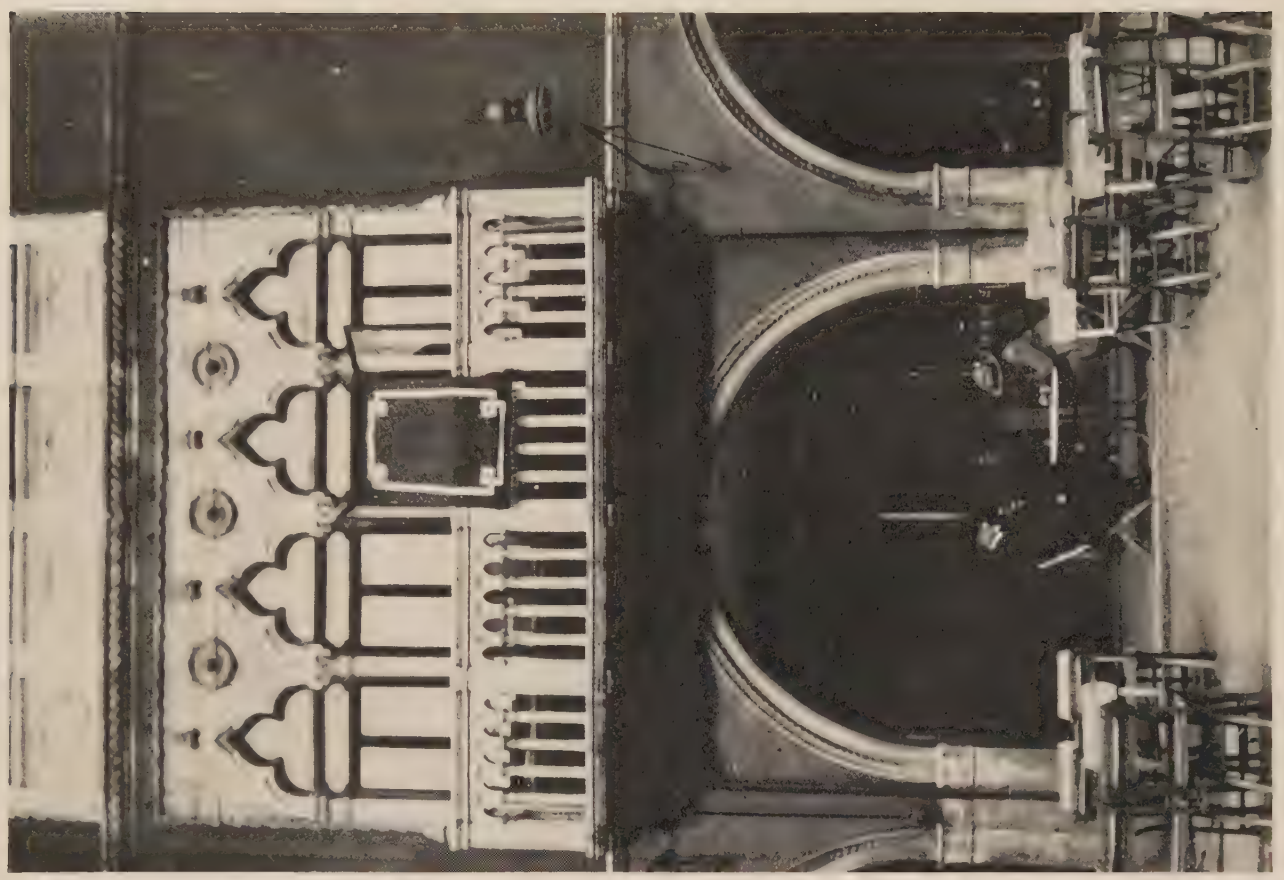
SAM'L. G. WIENER.

November 28, 1928.

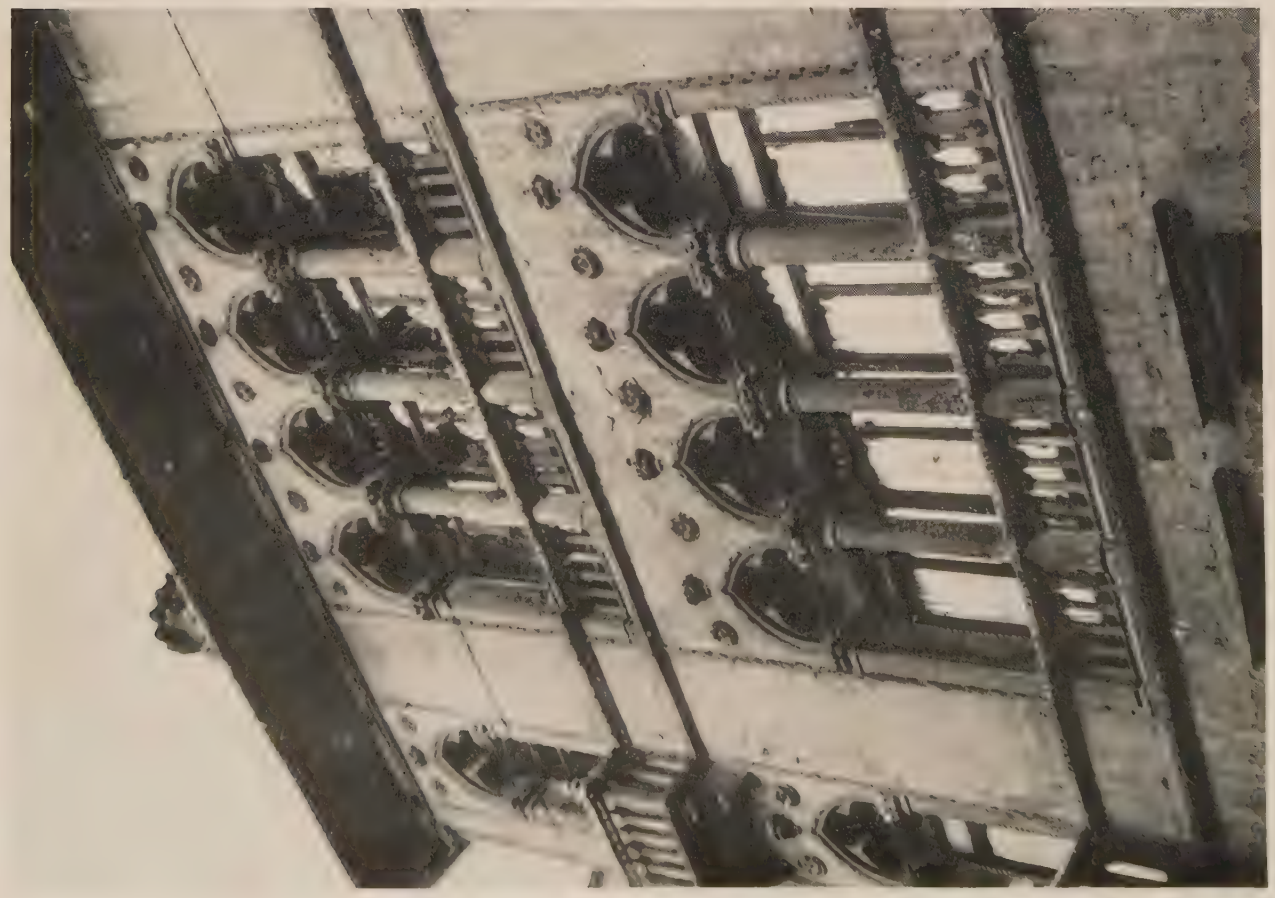
PALAZZO CONTARINI FASAN, CALLED THE HOUSE OF DESDEMONA,
THIRTEENTH CENTURY GOTHIC

PALAZZO ZENO, FOURTEENTH CENTURY GOTHIC

S.G. N 27
RIO DEL PIOMBO, VENICE



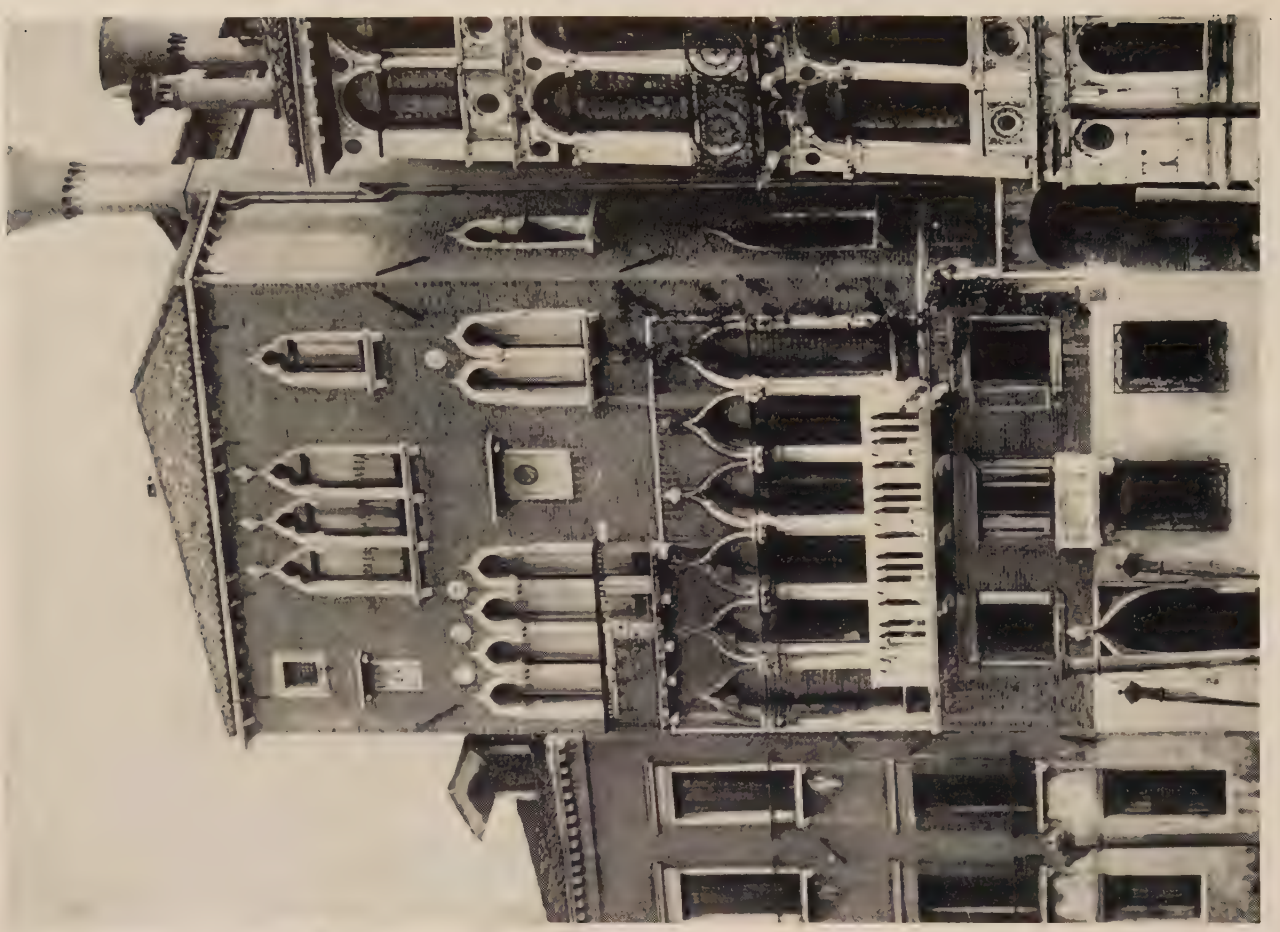
GOTHIC HOUSE IN CHIOGGIA



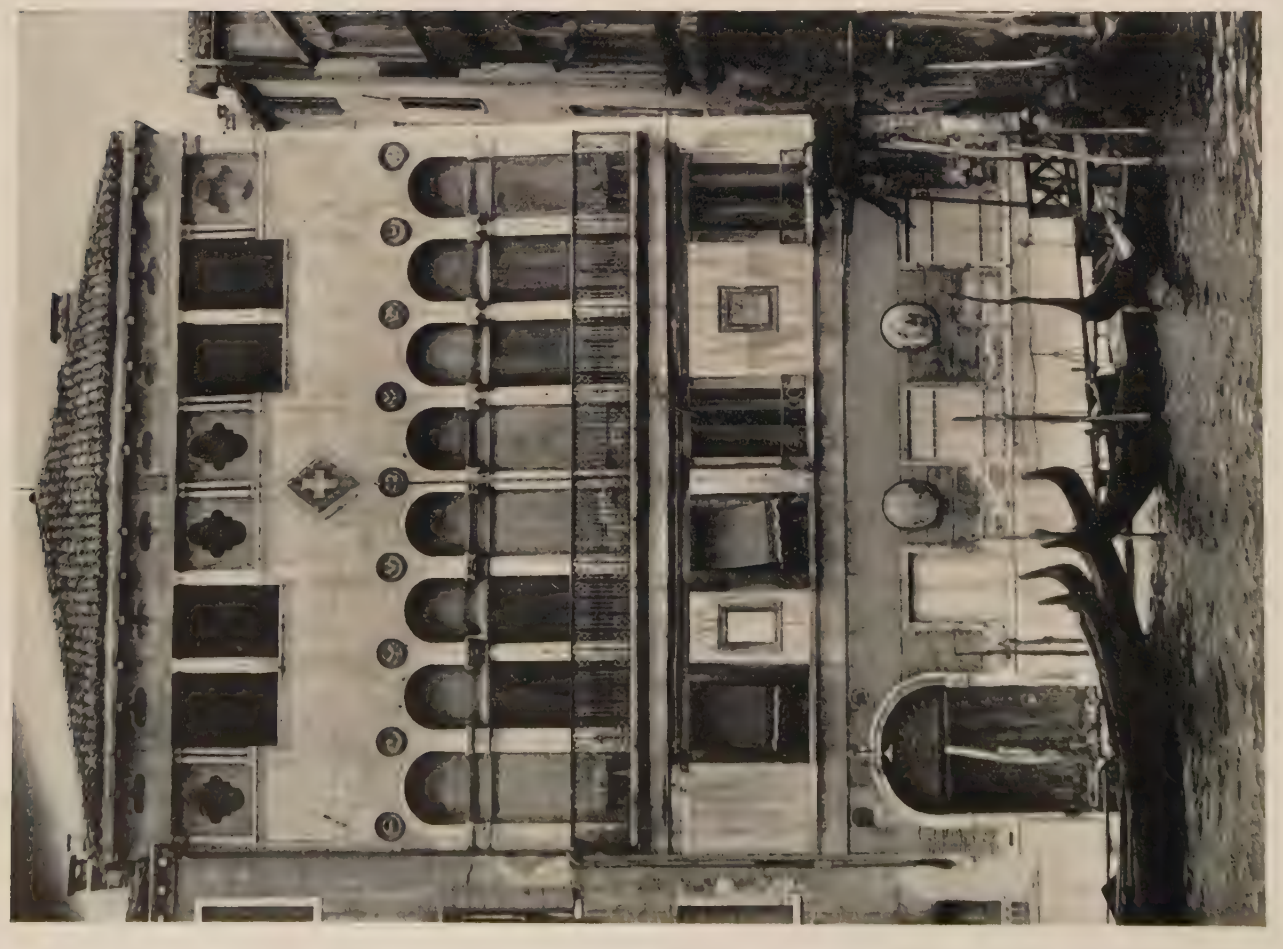
GOTHIC HOUSE IN VICENZA

ABBEY ST. GREGORY, 14TH CENTURY GOTHIC

THIRTEENTH CENTURY GOTHIC HOUSES



FACADE WITH BYZANTINE AND GOTHIC DETAILS



PALAZZO DONA ORA SICHER, TWELFTH CENTURY BYZANTINE

"HOUSE OF DESDEMONA"

OLD HOUSES

OLD HOUSE

HOUSE IN VICENZA
Showing combination of Gothic and Renaissance details.
The walls are plastered and painted.

A GOTHIC HOUSE

PALAZZO PISANI S. POLO, FOURTEENTH CENTURY

CAMPO DELLA MADDALENA

PALAZZO BARBARO, FOURTEENTH CENTURY GOTHIC, MAIN ENTRANCE, BALUSTERS AND PANELS ARE RENAISSANCE

CHIMNEY TOPS

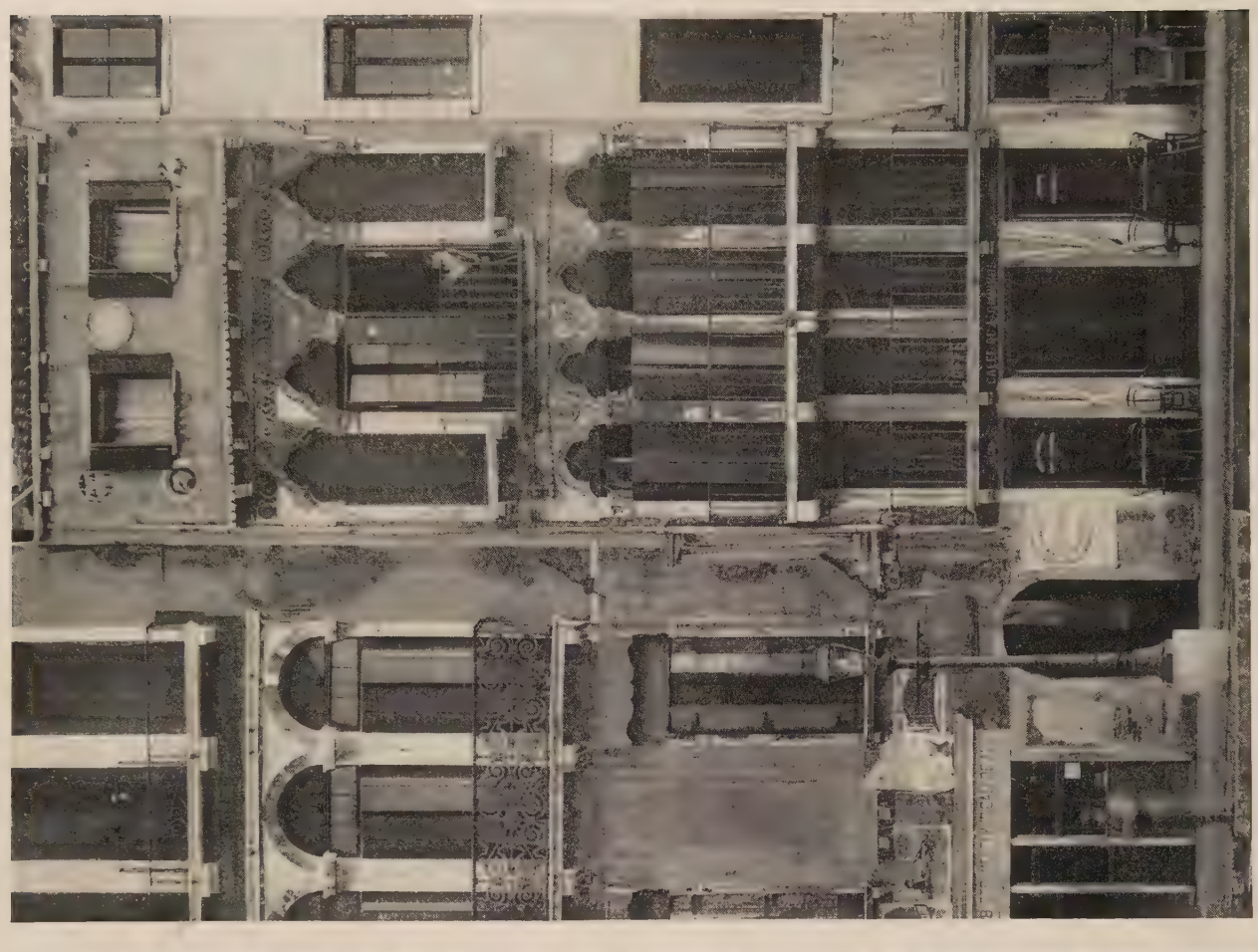
FOURTEENTH CENTURY GOTHIC HOUSE IN PIRANO

PALAZZO THIENE, VICENZA, FIFTEENTH CENTURY

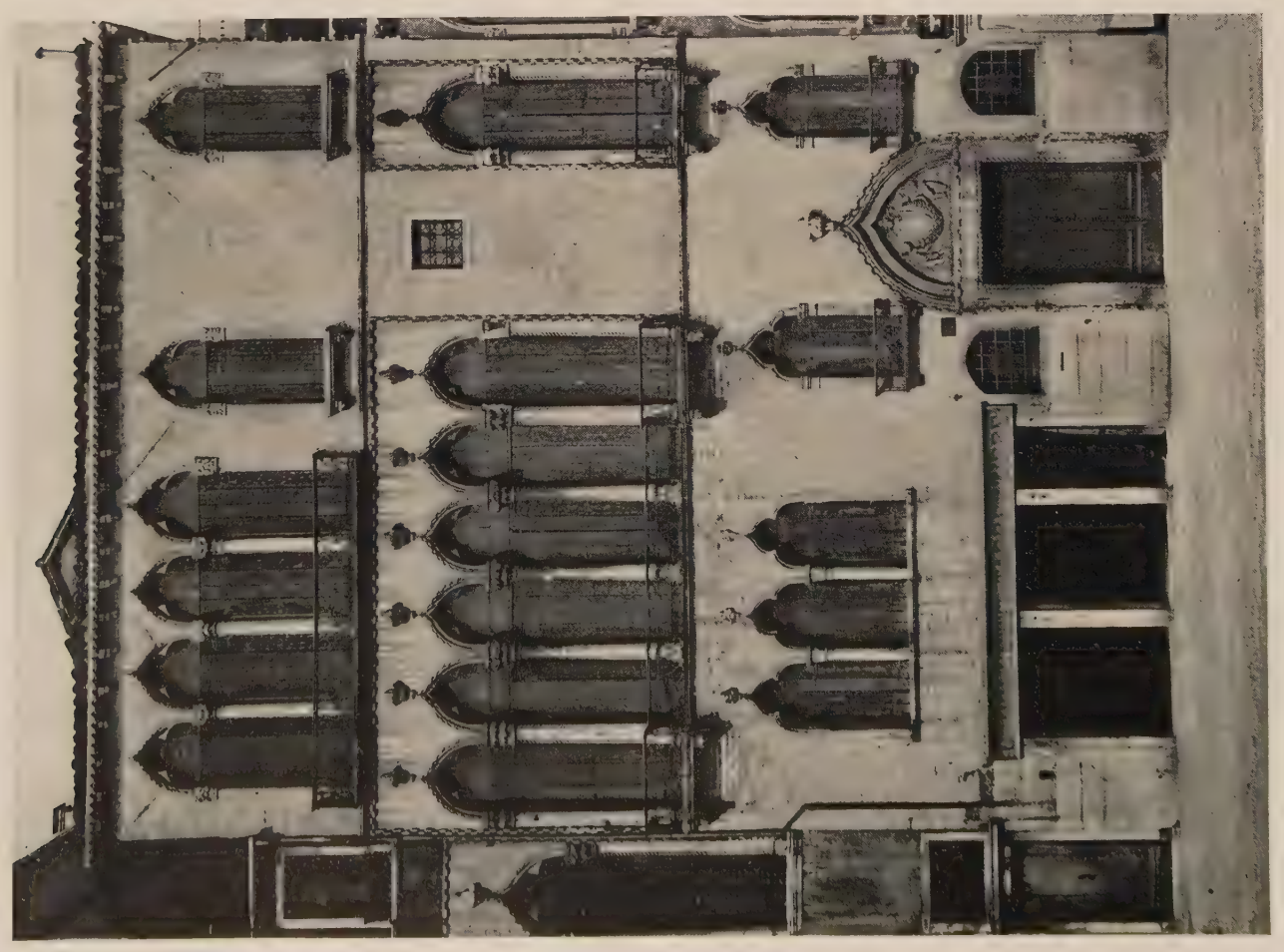
TWELFTH CENTURY HOUSE WITH LATER DETAILS

OLD HOUSES

A RENAISSANCE PALACE ON THE GRAND CANAL



HOUSE OF ENRICO DANDOLO



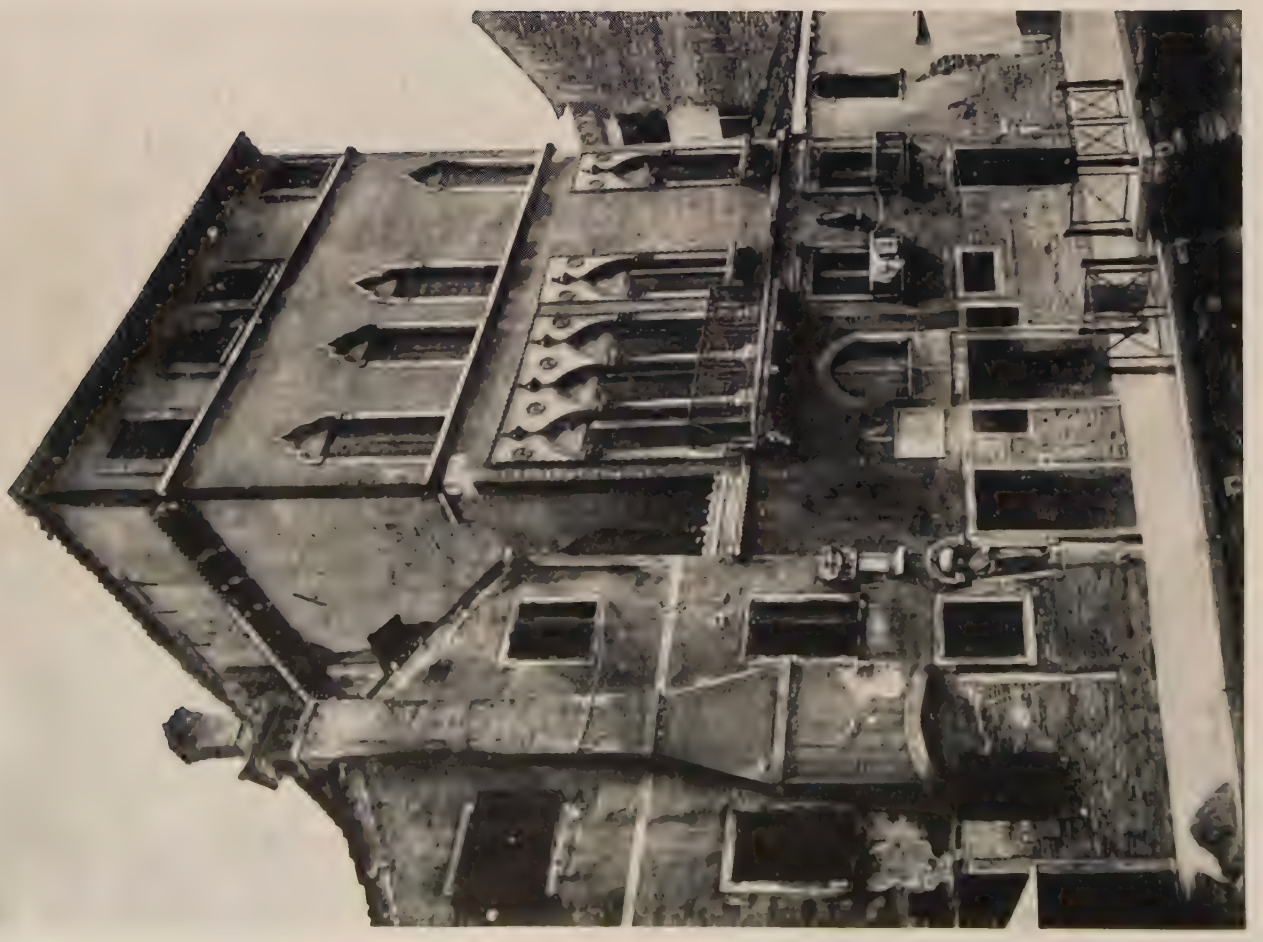
GOTHIC HOUSE IN CAMPO S. MARIA FORMOSA, FOURTEENTH CENTURY

HOUSE IN CAMPO SANTA MARIA MATER DOMINI, LOWER PART
THIRTEENTH CENTURY GOTHIC, UPPER PART RENAISSANCE

PALAZZO STERN, MODERN BUILDING IN GOTHIC STYLE

CAMPO S. BENEDETTO

FOURTEENTH CENTURY HOUSE, RIO DELLA GUERRA

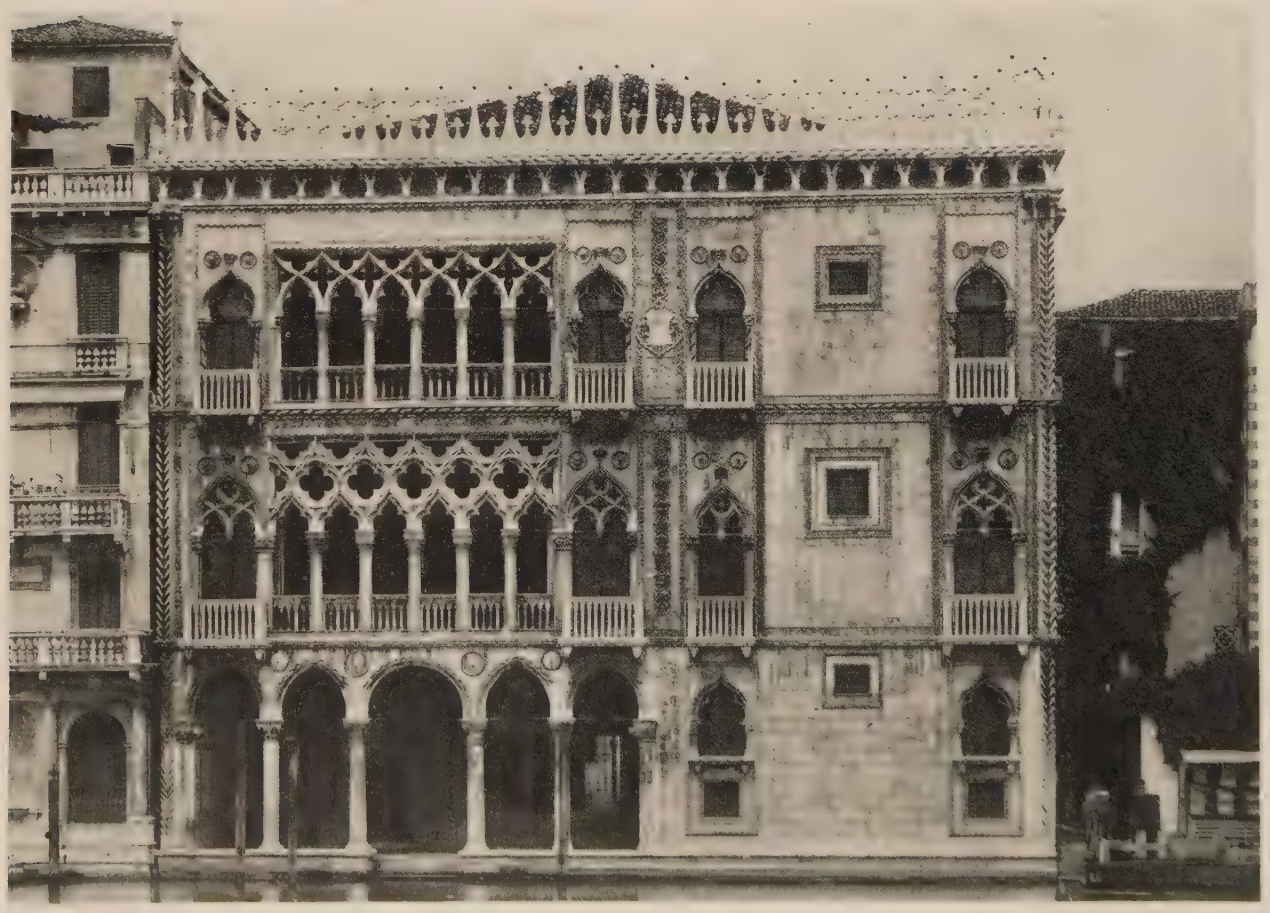


HOUSE OF TINTORETTO, FOURTEENTH CENTURY

HOUSE OF THE ARABS, DETAILS OF SEVERAL CENTURIES

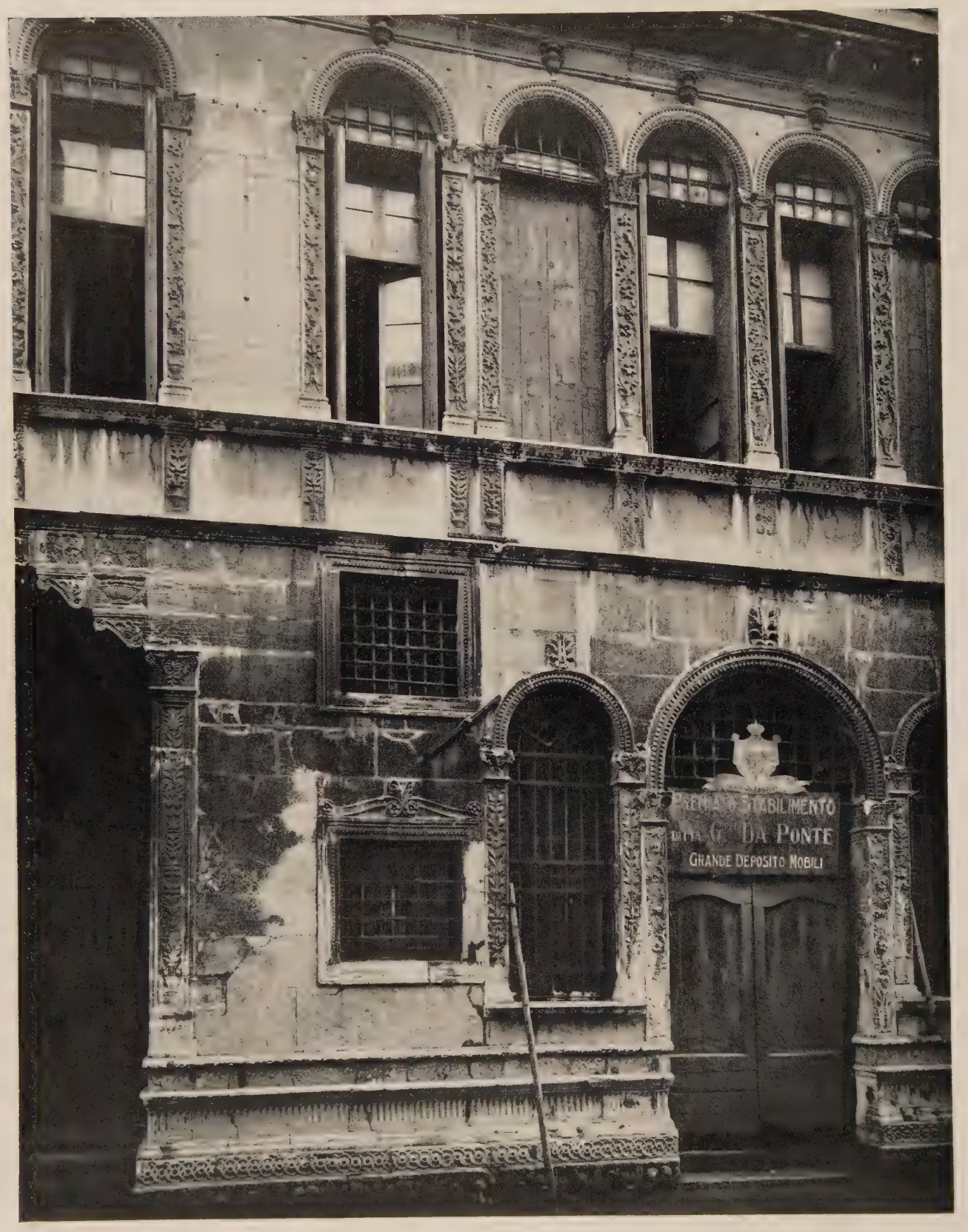
PALAZZO NANI MOCENIGO, FOURTEENTH CENTURY GOTHIC
WITH SOME RENAISSANCE DETAILS

PALAZZA LOREDAN, LATE GOTHIC



THE CA D'ORO, FOURTEENTH CENTURY GOTHIC

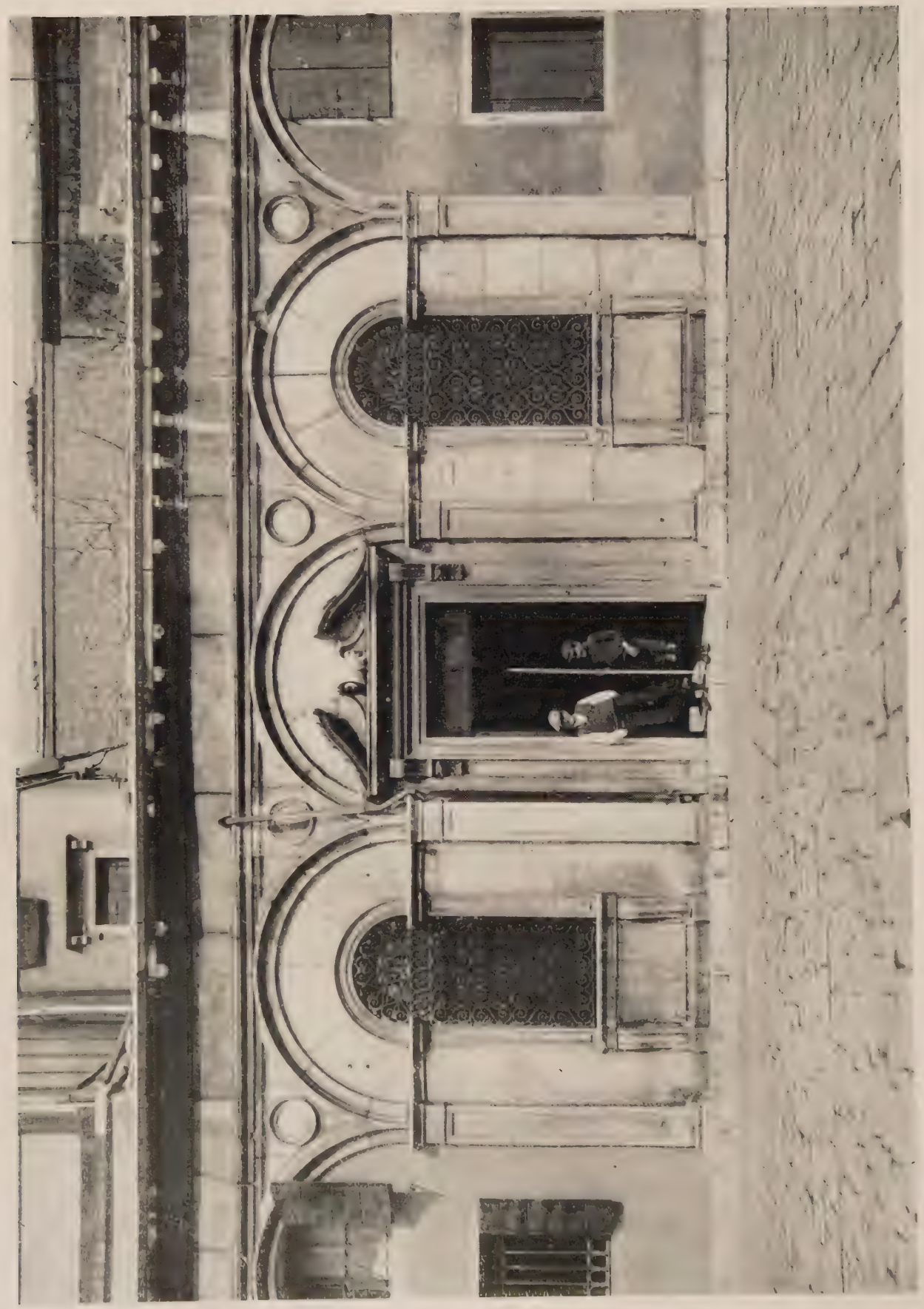
HOUSES ON THE GRAND CANAL



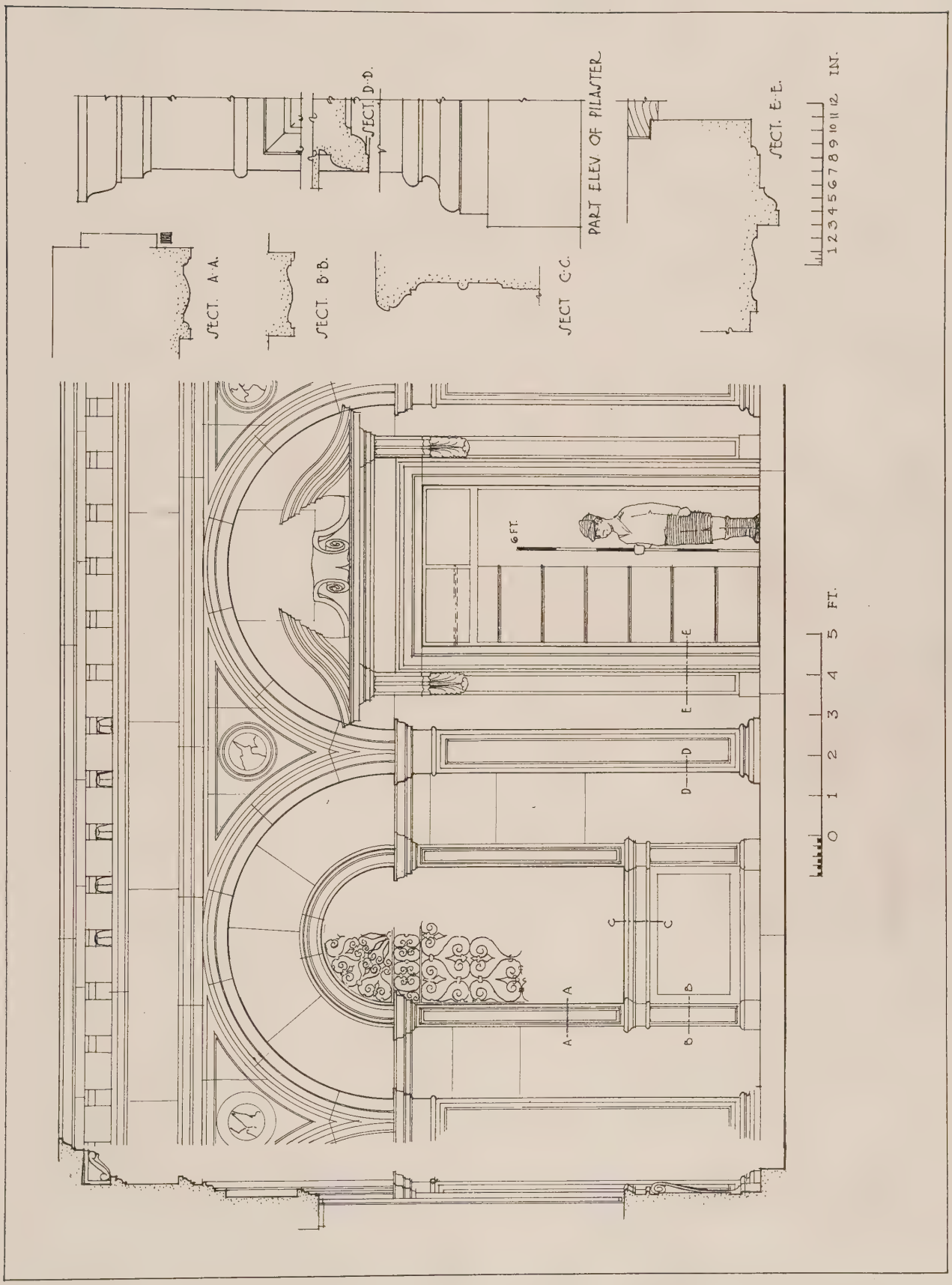
THE HOUSE OF GUSSONI. "LOMBARDO" FIFTEENTH CENTURY RENAISSANCE

THE LOGGIA OF PALAZZO VESCOVILE, VICENZA. BUILT 1495

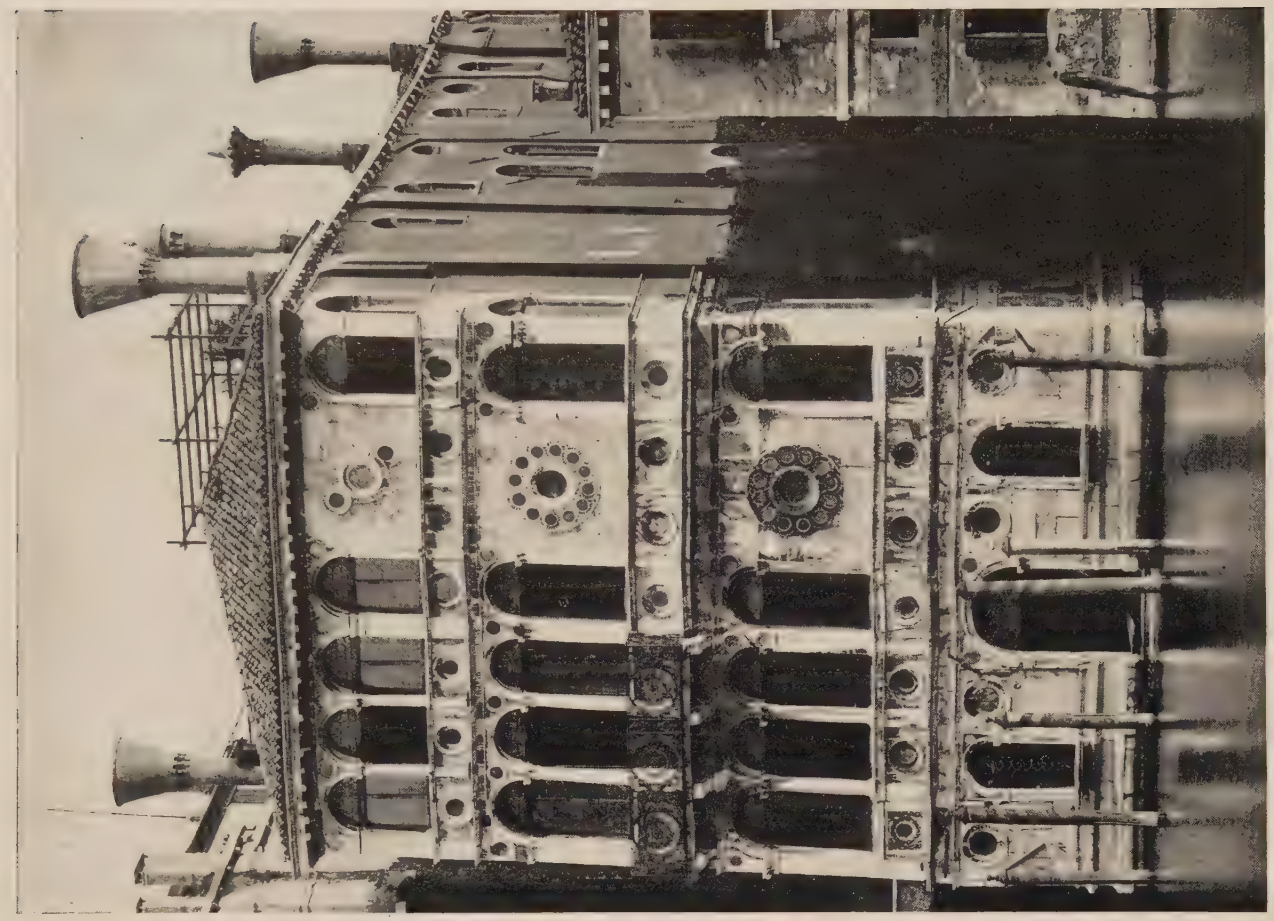
HOUSES IN THE CAMPO DELLA MADDALENA



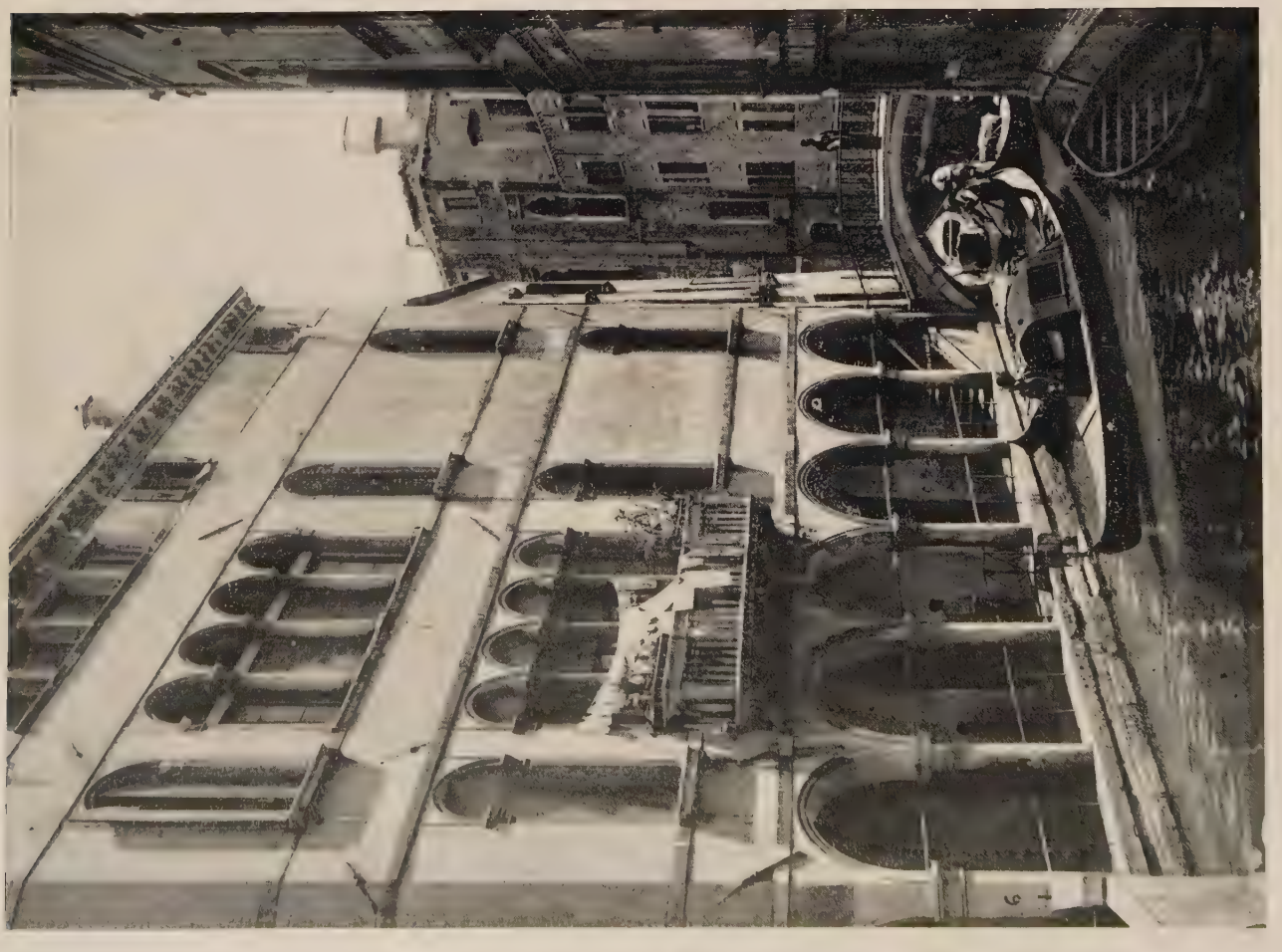
THE CLOISTER OF S. ZACCARIA, NOW SHOPS



DETAIL OF ELEVATION, FORMER CLOISTER OF S. ZACCARIA

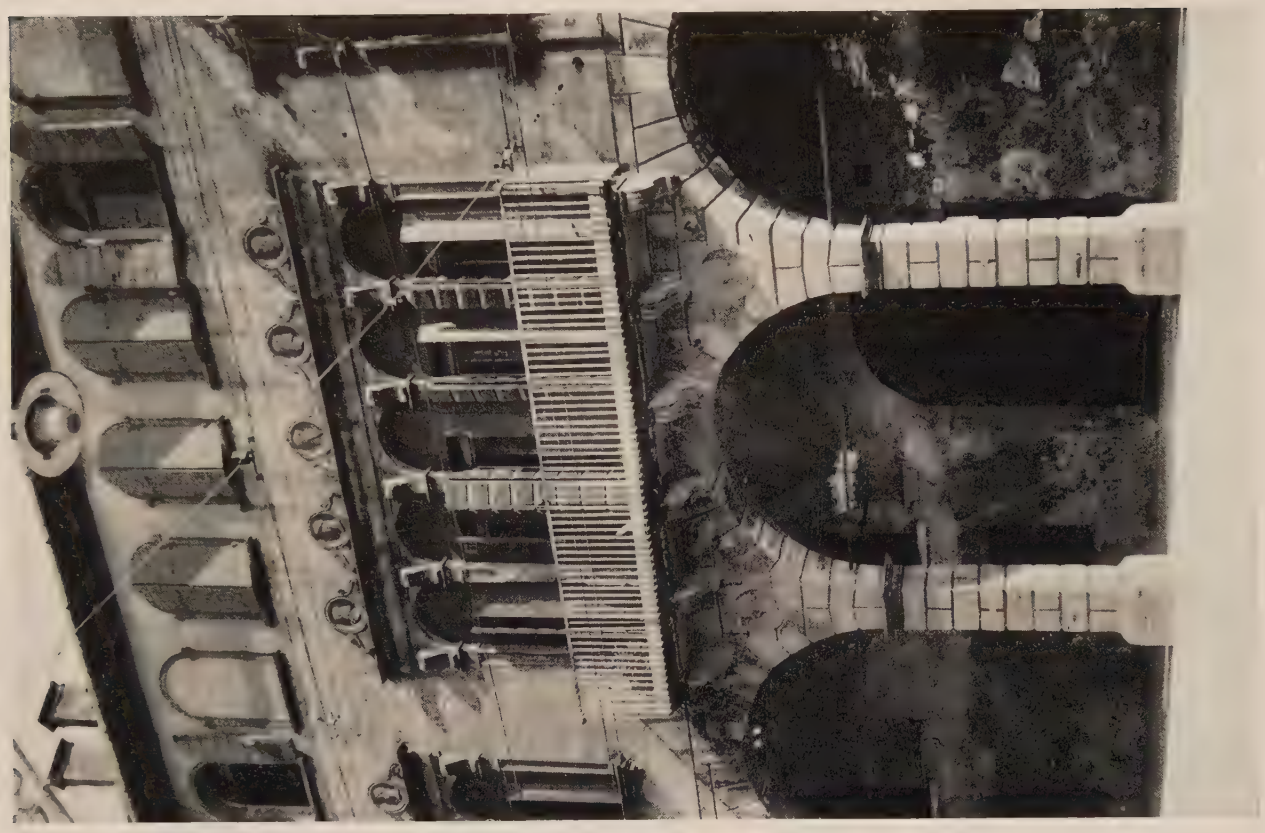


PALAZZO DARIO, "LOMBARDESCO" STYLE, FIFTEENTH CENTURY RENAISSANCE, MARBLE FACADE

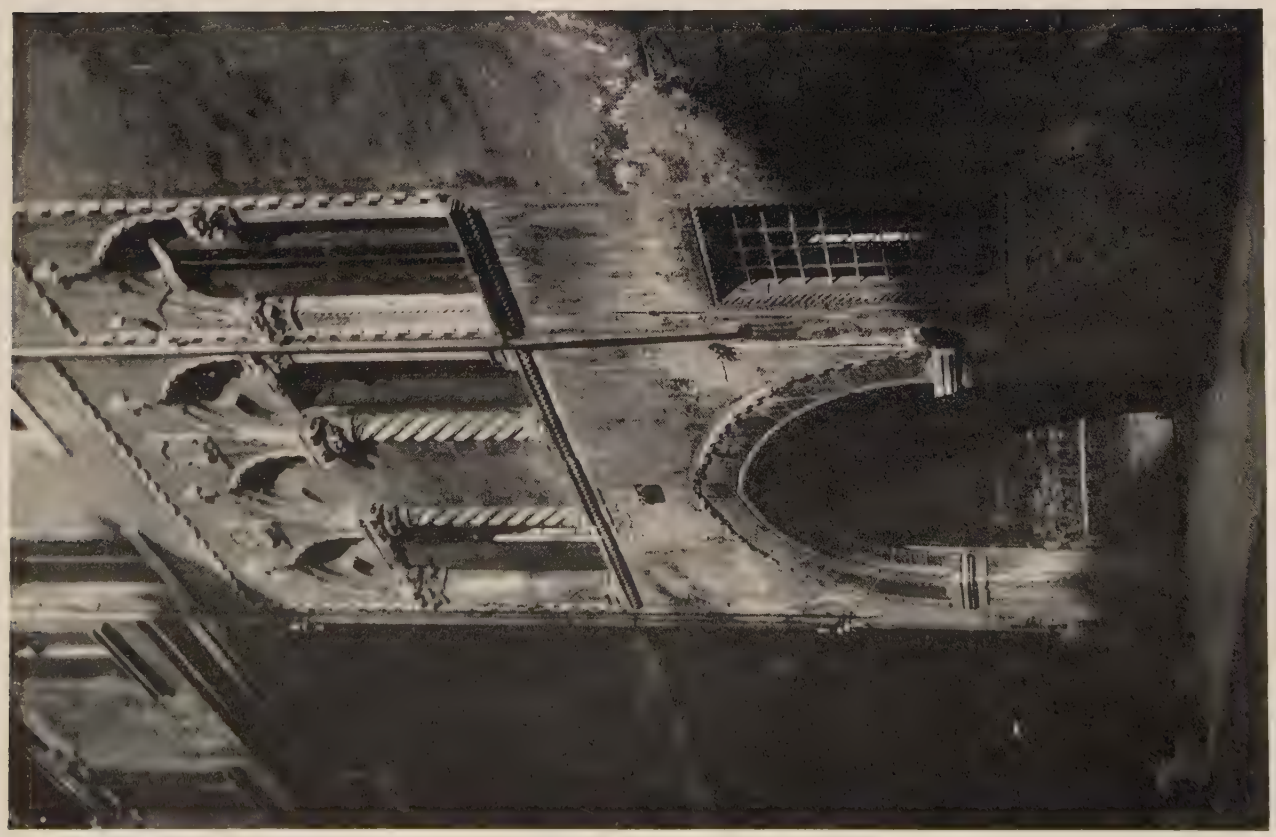


HOUSES ON A SMALL CANAL

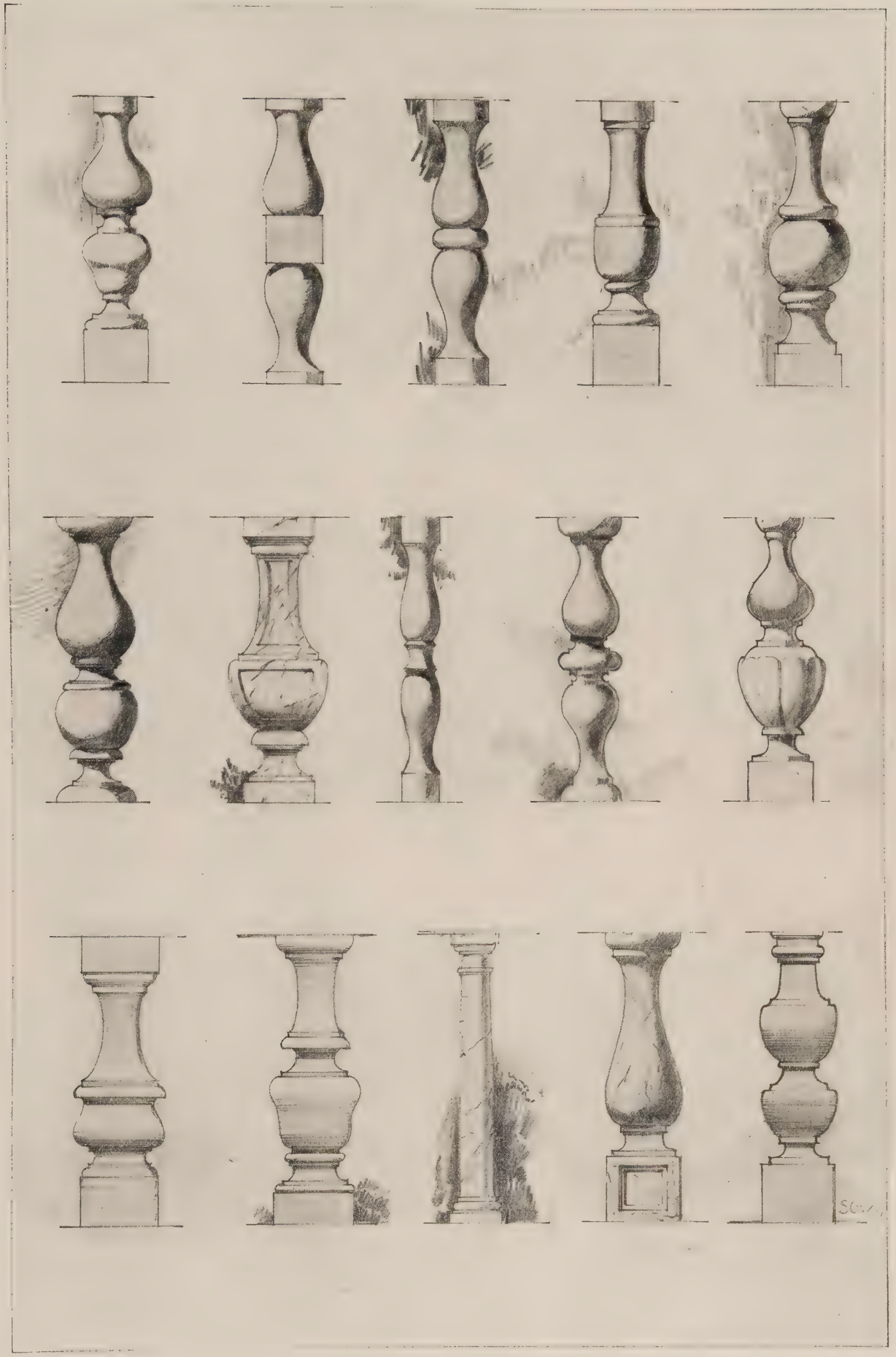
STONE URNS AND POST ORNAMENTS



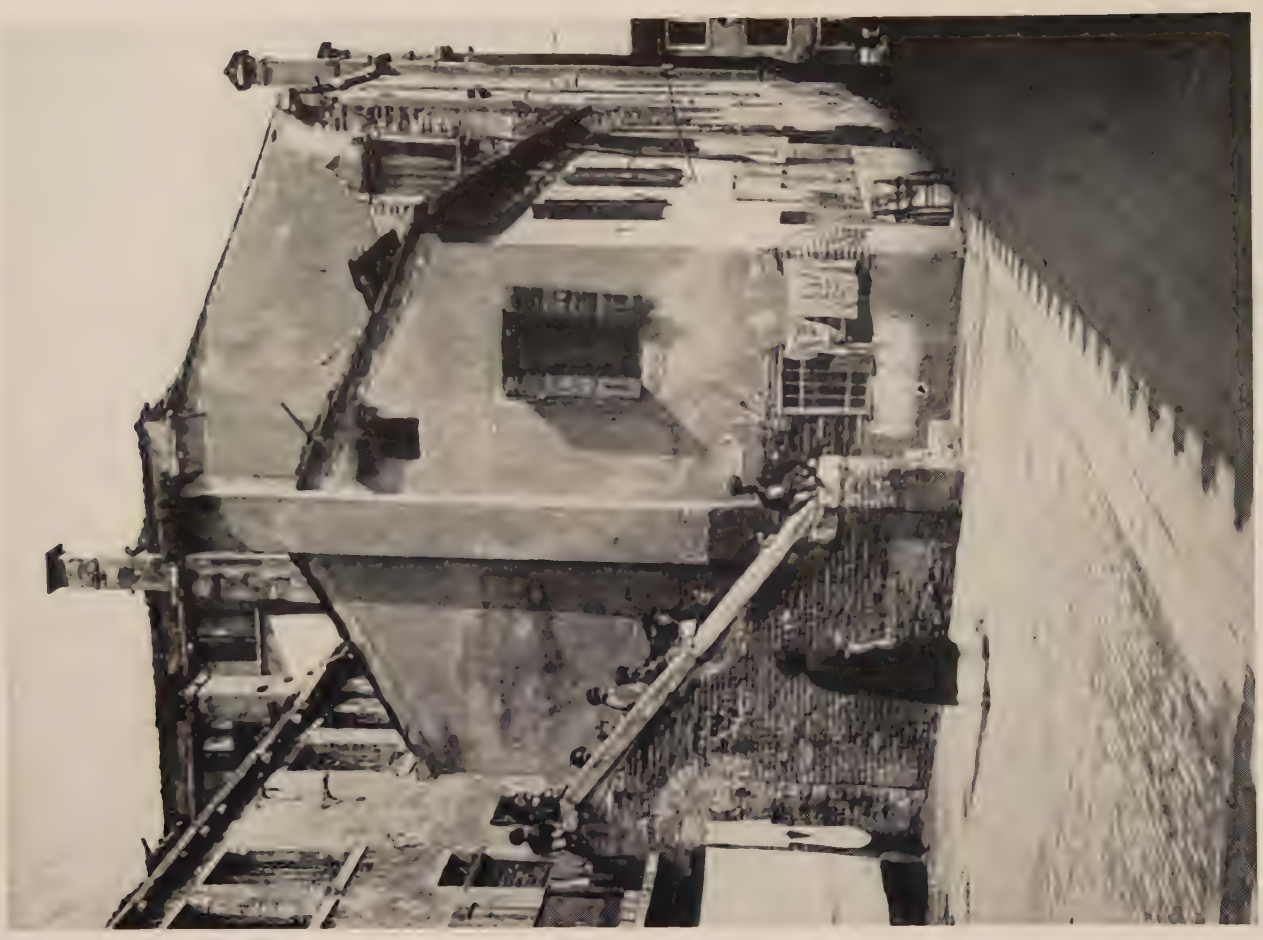
A FACADE OF ARCHES, PADUA



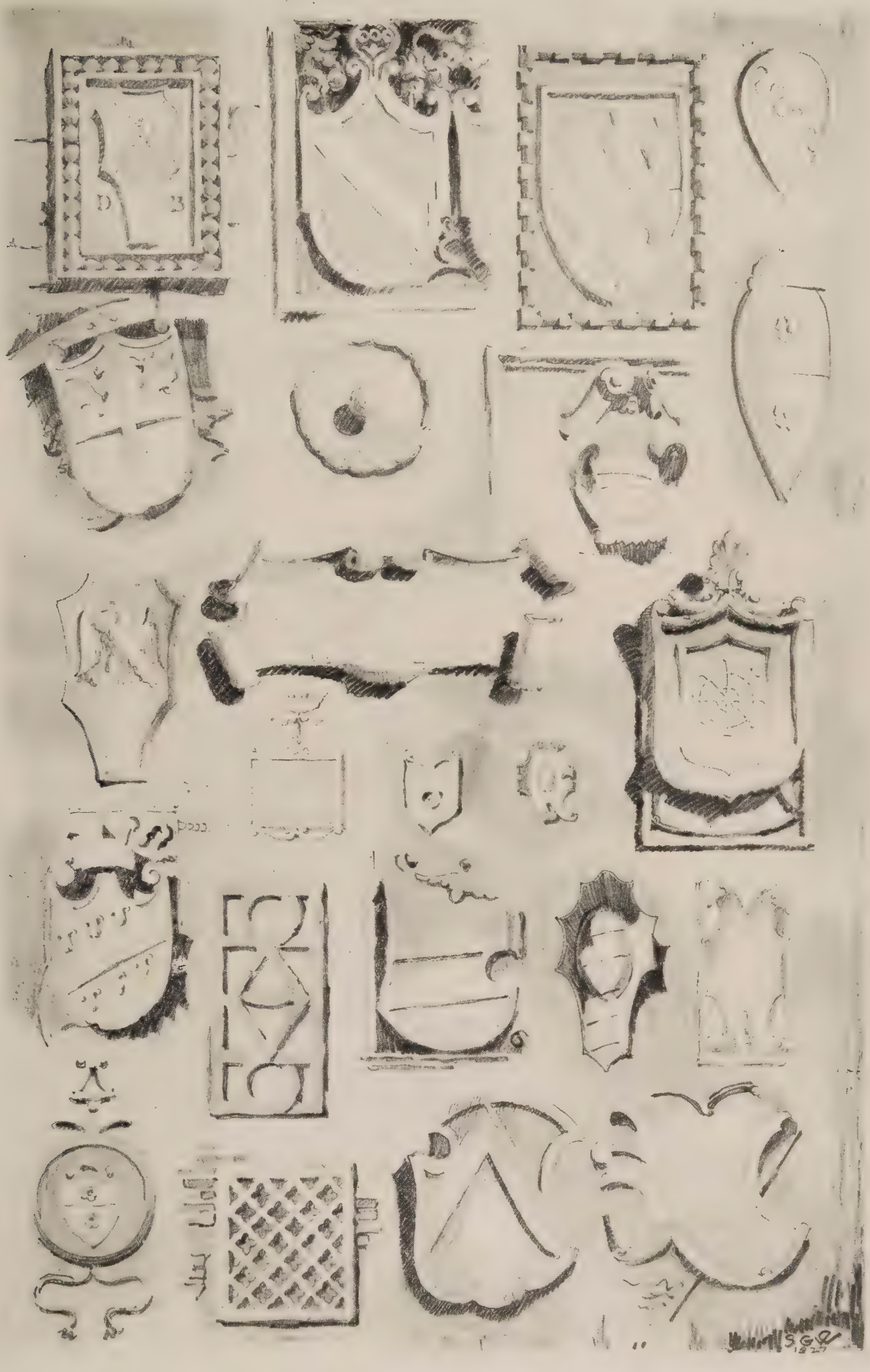
GOTHIC HOUSE IN VICENZA



VENETIAN RENAISSANCE BALUSTERS



RUSTIC HOUSES



STONE CARTOUCHES AND ORNAMENTS

RENAISSANCE FACADE

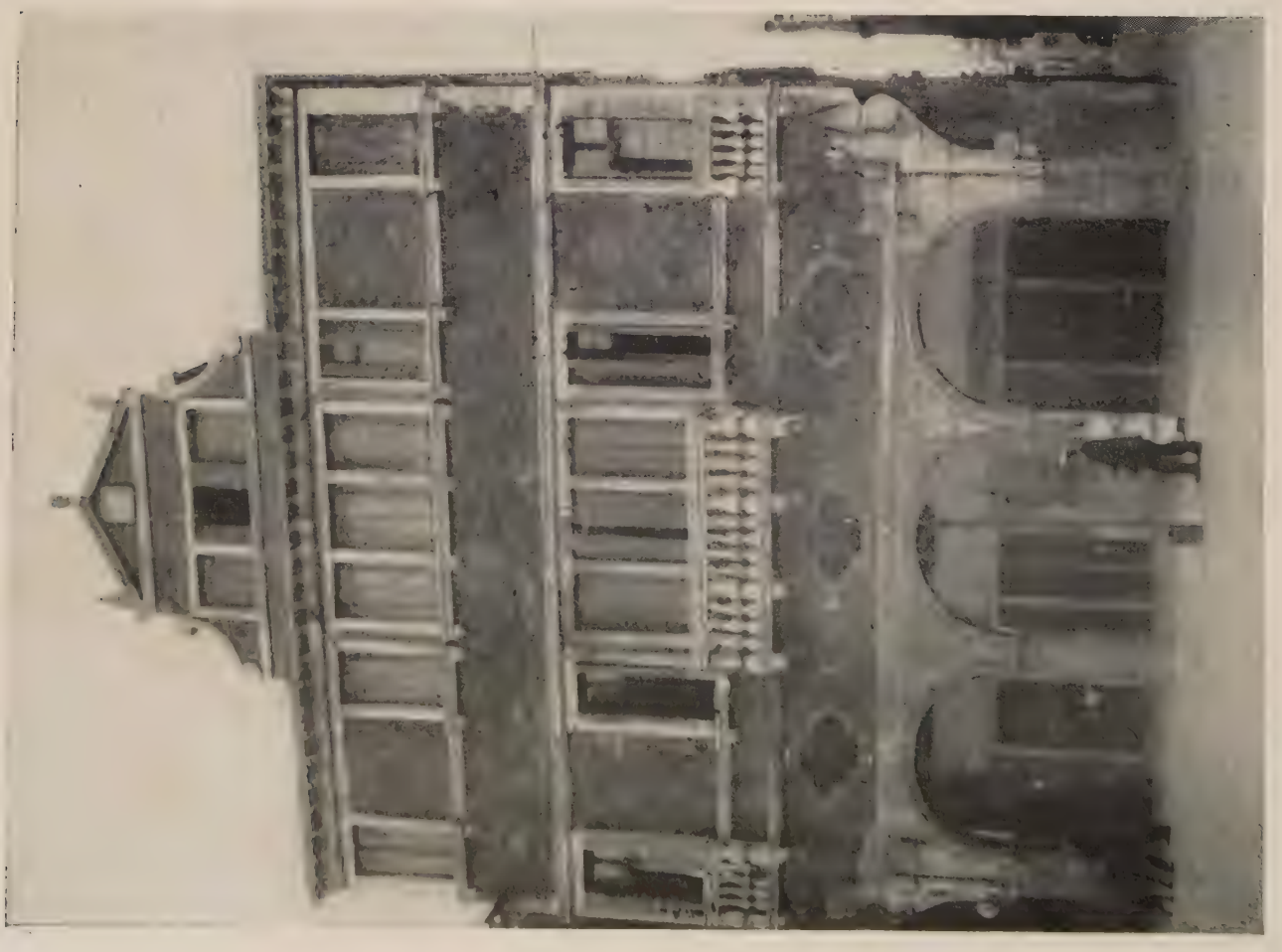
RENAISSANCE IN CHIOGGIA

PECULIAR COMPOSITION OF ARCHES AND COLUMNS

VILLA CHAPEL

VILLA MALCONTENTA

VILLA AND FARM HOUSE NEAR PADUA



THE RENAISSANCE IN CHIOGGIA

SMALL HOUSE, SHOWING ROOF GARDEN

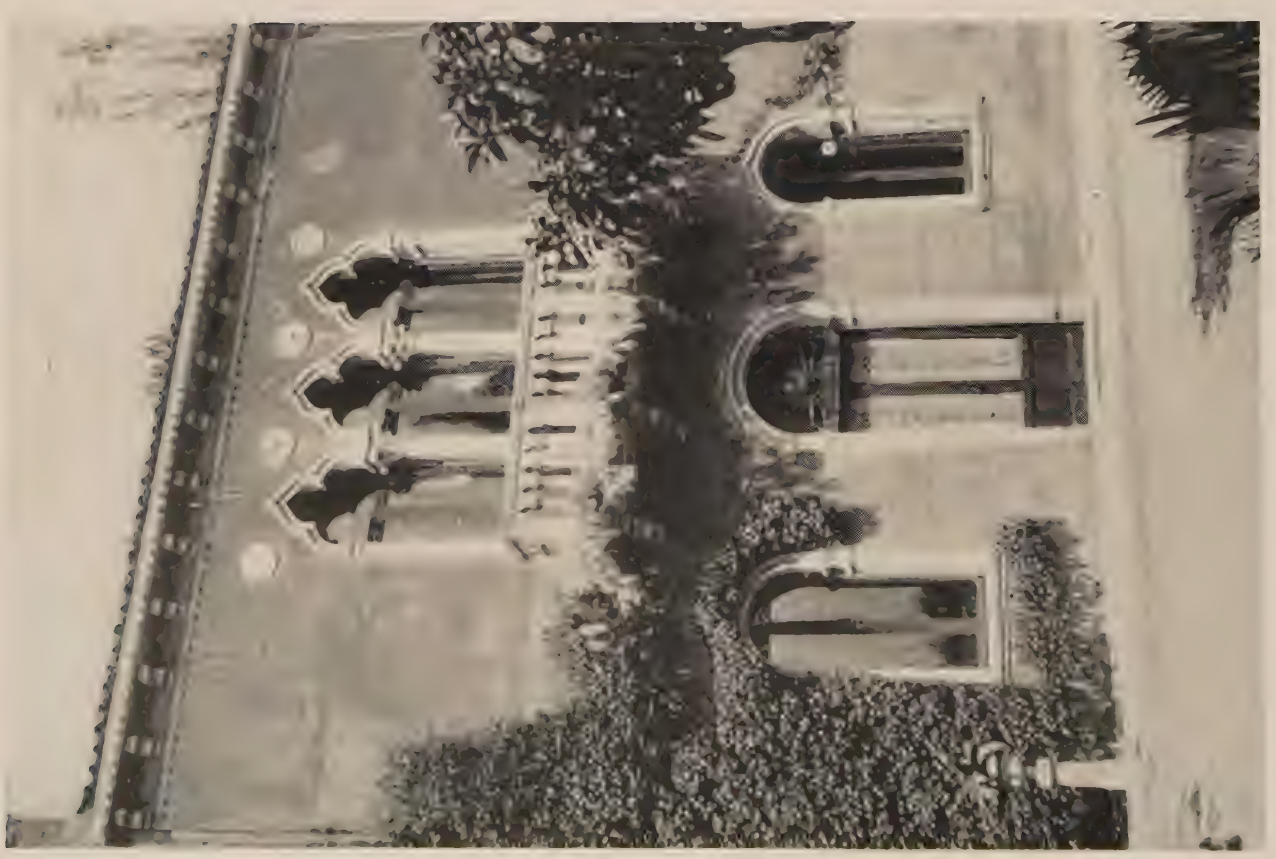
FISHERMAN'S HOUSE, CHIOGGIA

THE OLD BOAT HOUSE

CHIMNEY POTS

RUSTIC HOUSES

OLD ROOFS



VILLA ANCONA, A MODERN BUILDING IN THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY VENETIAN GOTHIC STYLE

HOUSE IN AQUITA

A RUSTIC PALACE NEAR MALCONTENTA

DISTINCTLY VENETIAN

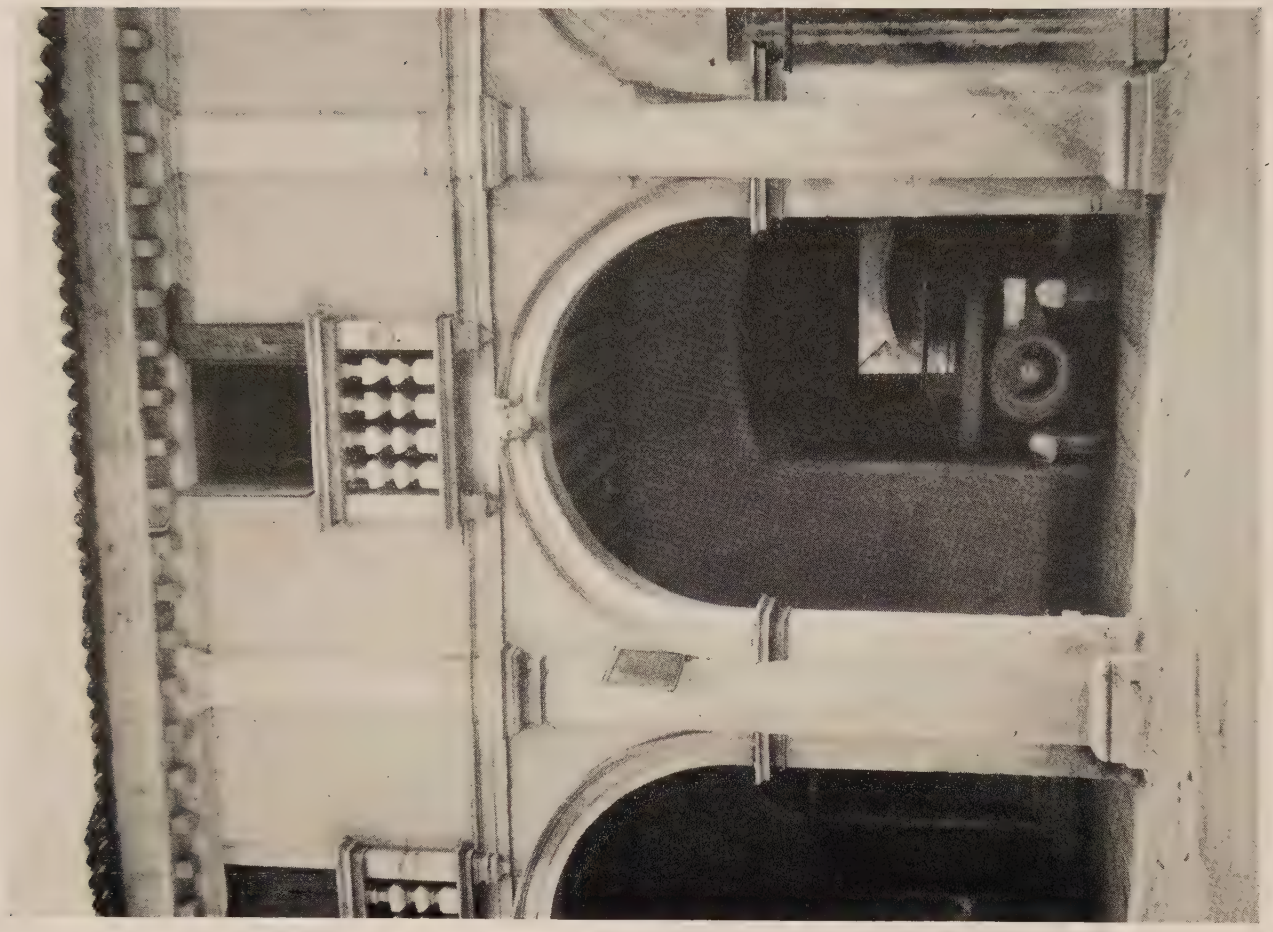
A VILLA ON THE BRENTA CANAL

RENAISSANCE SHOP FRONT

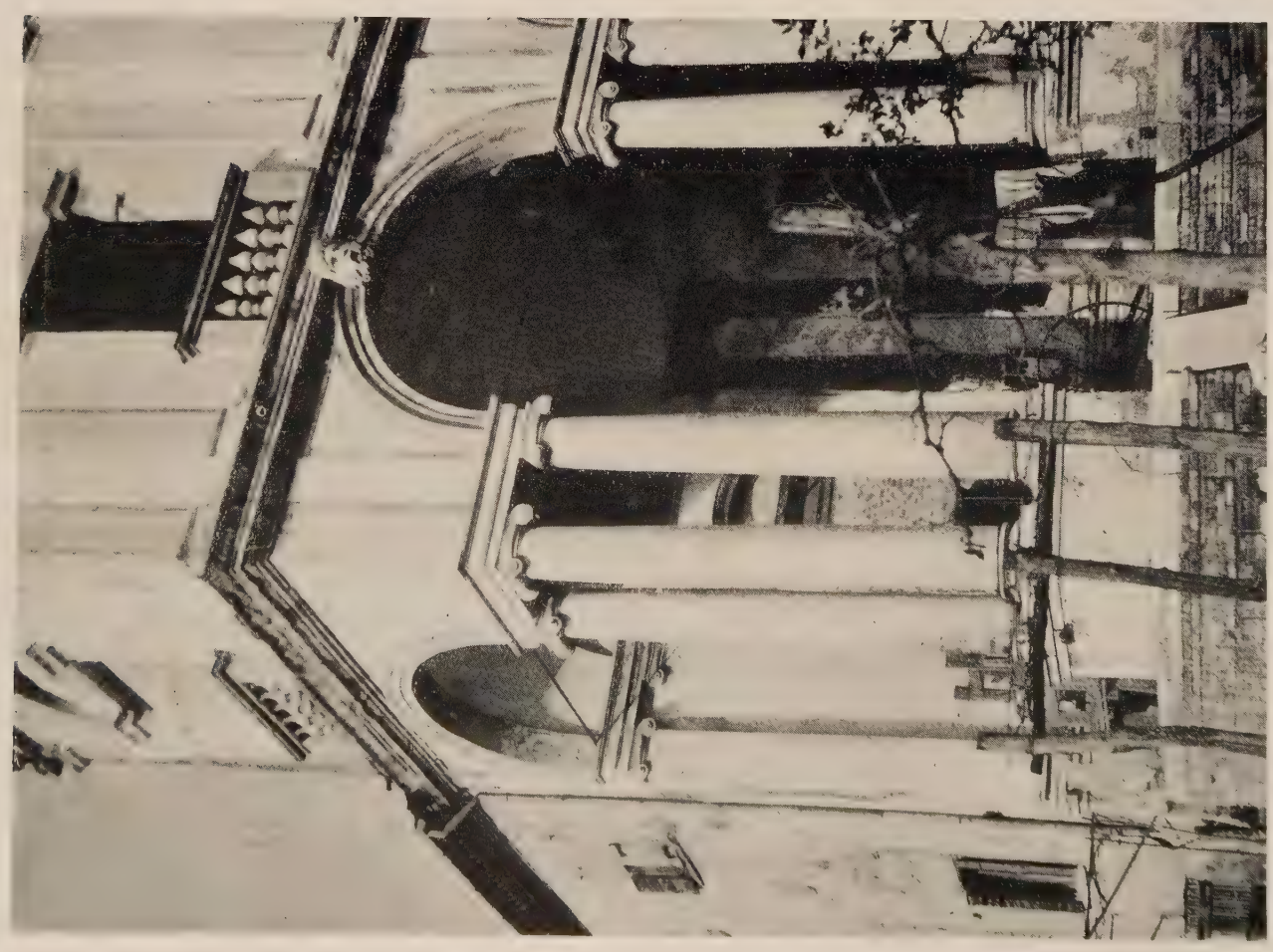
COURT FACADE OF VILLA NEAR MIRA

A VILLA CHAPEL

VILLA NEAR MALCONTENTA. THE CENTRAL ARCH HAS BEEN CHANGED BY ADDING THE INNER ARCH



DETAIL OF FACADE OF A VILLA NEAR MIRA



CORNER DETAIL

STABLES NEAR STRA

HOUSE NEAR STRA

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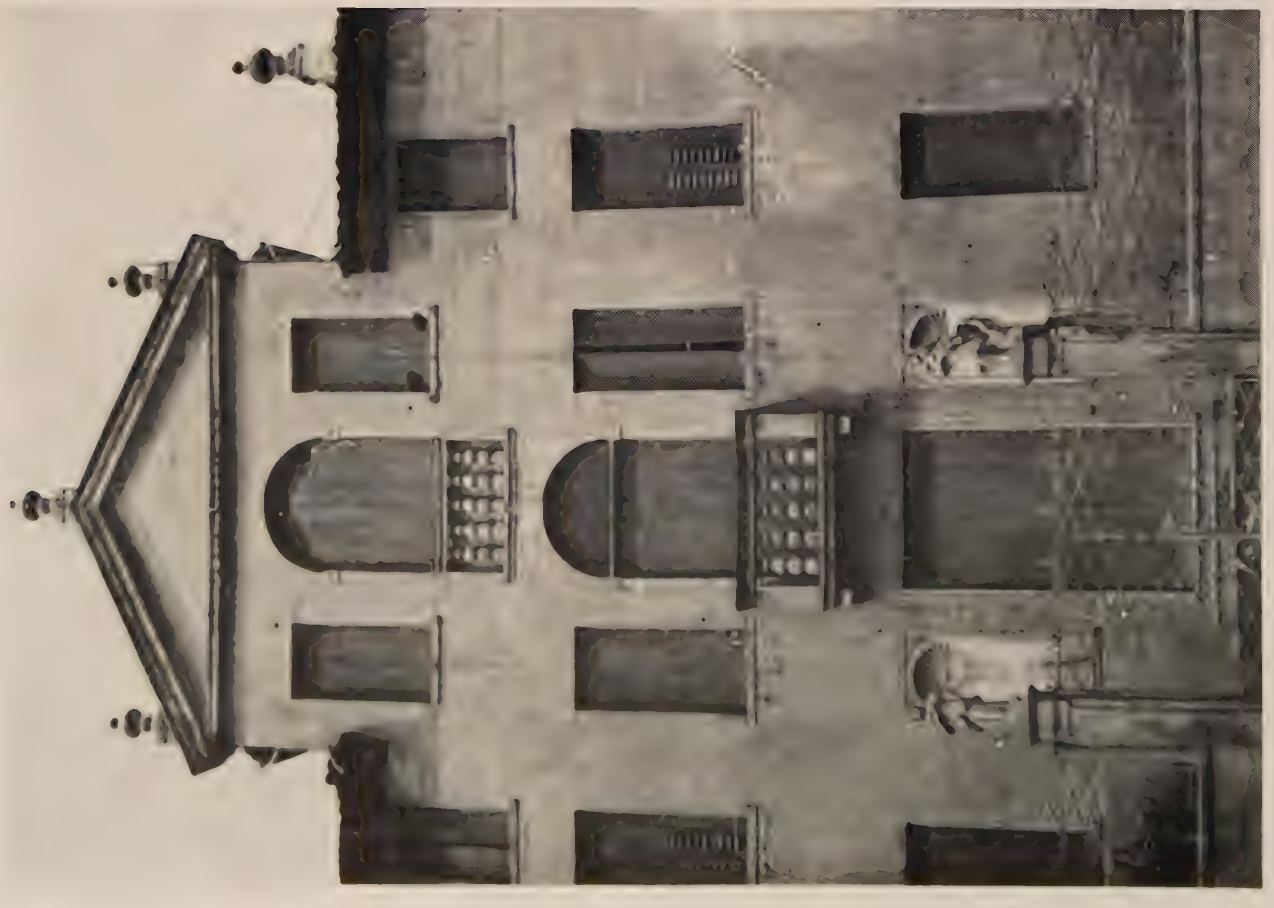
HOUSE ON THE ISLAND OF MAZZARBO

VILLA NEAR VICENZA

BAROQUE VILLAS

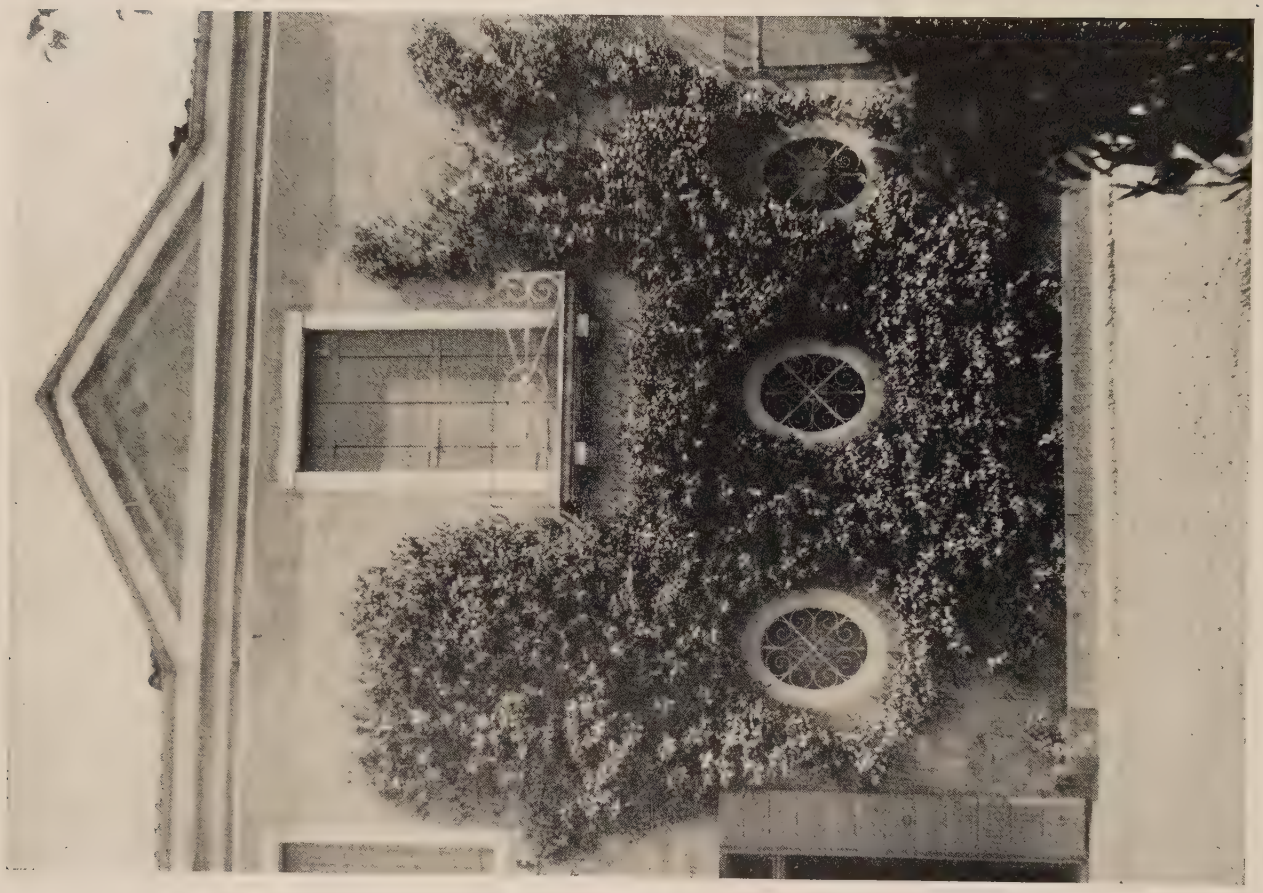
SEVENTEENTH CENTURY VILLA



VILLA ADLINA

FARM COTTAGE

HOUSE ON THE ISLAND OF MURANO



FACADE DETAILS OF FARM HOUSES

PALLADIAN VILLA NEAR STRA, MARBLE AND CRIMSON STUCCO

STABLES ON AN ESTATE NEAR STRA

BARN AND SERVANTS' QUARTERS

LATE RENAISSANCE HOUSES

HOUSE ON ESTATE NEAR STRA

ENTRANCE, SEVENTEENTH CENTURY COUNTRY HOUSE

BARNS NEAR PADUA

FARM HOUSES

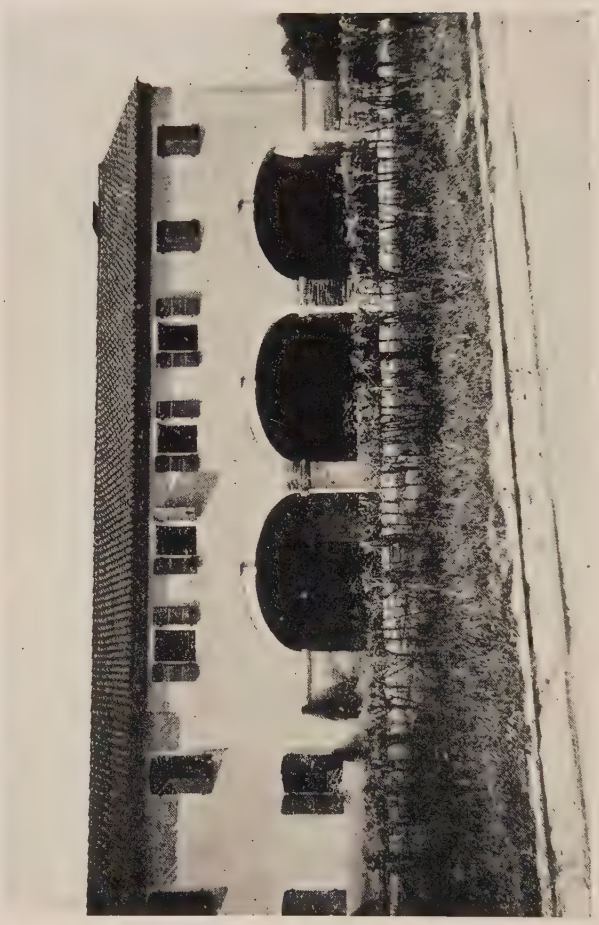
SERVANTS' COTTAGE, SEVENTEENTH CENTURY

VILLA FARMHOUSE, WEST OF STRA

FARM BUILDINGS

FARM BUILDINGS

FARM BUILDING



FARM BUILDING

BARN NEAR MIRA

FARM BUILDING

FARM BUILDINGS

BARNS NEAR MIRA

RUSTIC COTTAGES

COUNTRY HOUSES

ENTRANCE TO VILLA BELINDA

SMALL HOUSES WEST OF PADUA

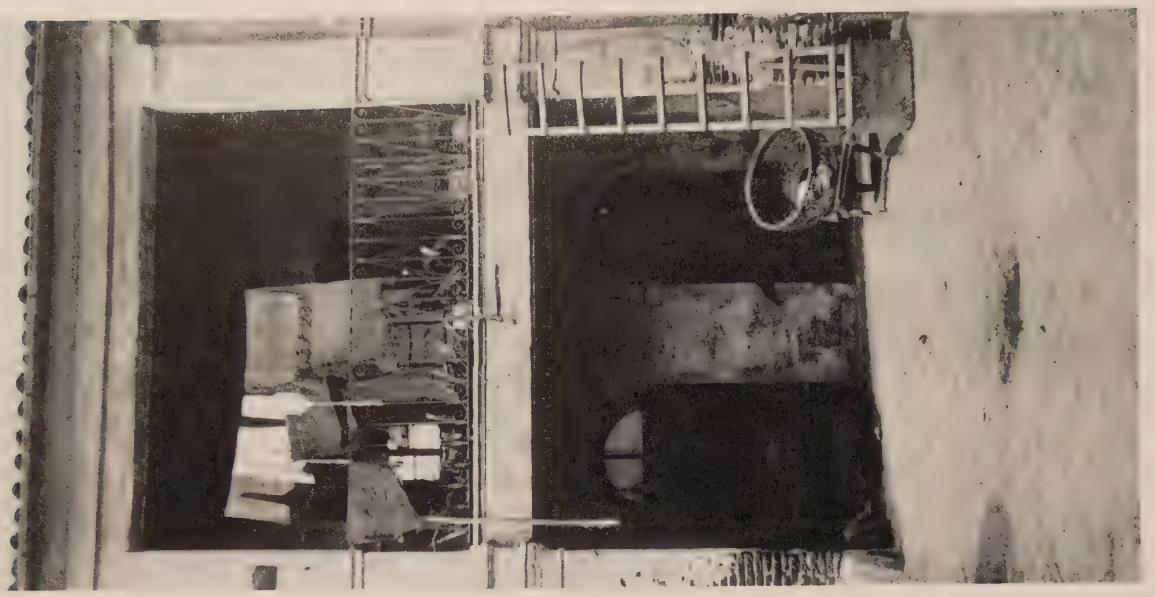
BARN NEAR VICENZA

THATCHED COTTAGE

VENETIAN HOUSES (BY CANALETTO)

RUSTIC COTTAGES (BY CANALETTO)

OLD HOUSES IN CHIOGGIA



DETAIL OF FRONT OF HOUSE NEAR VICENZA

DETAILS OF THATCHED COTTAGES

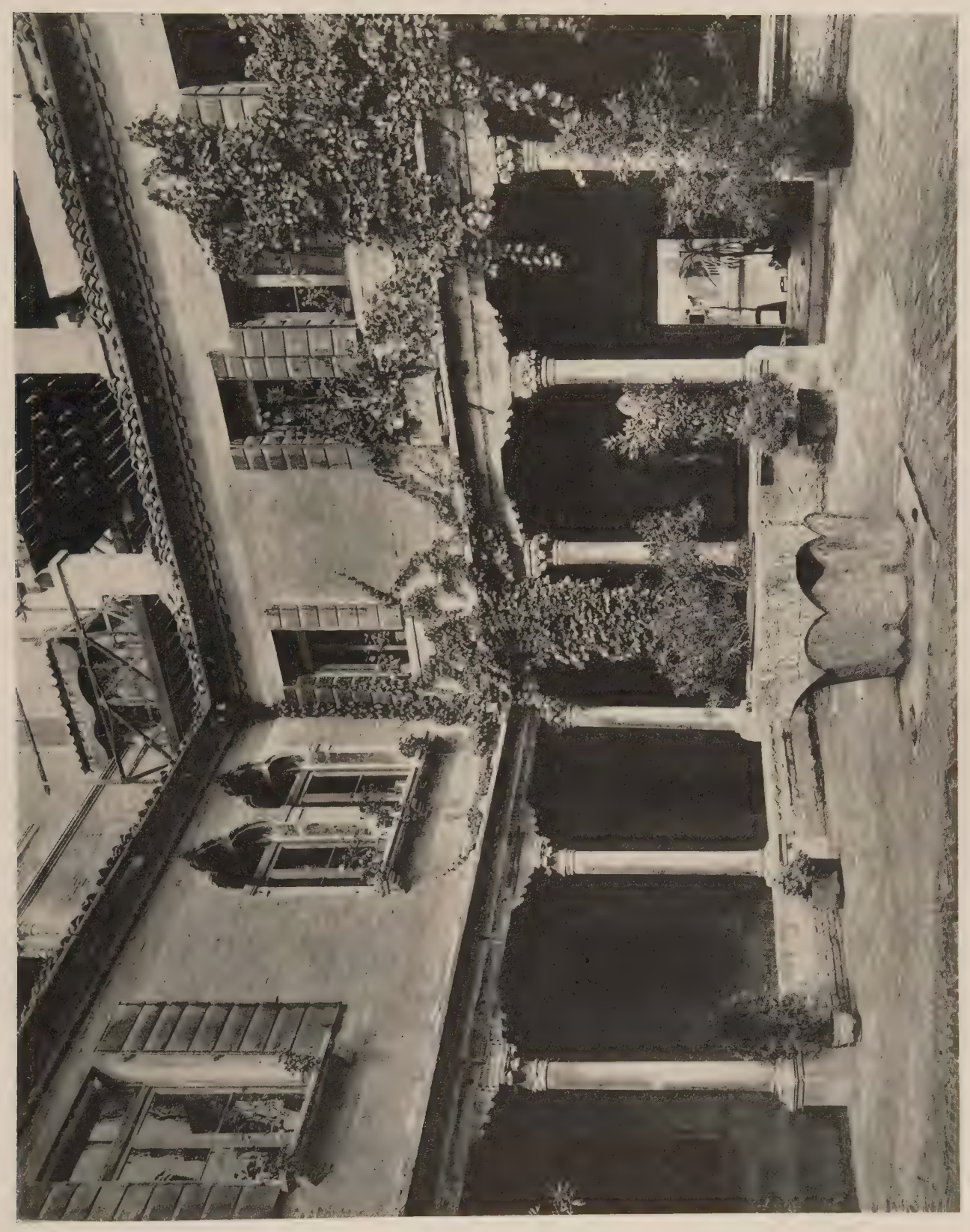
COURT SIDE OF A GOTHIC HOUSE

GARDENERS' HOUSE NEAR MIRA

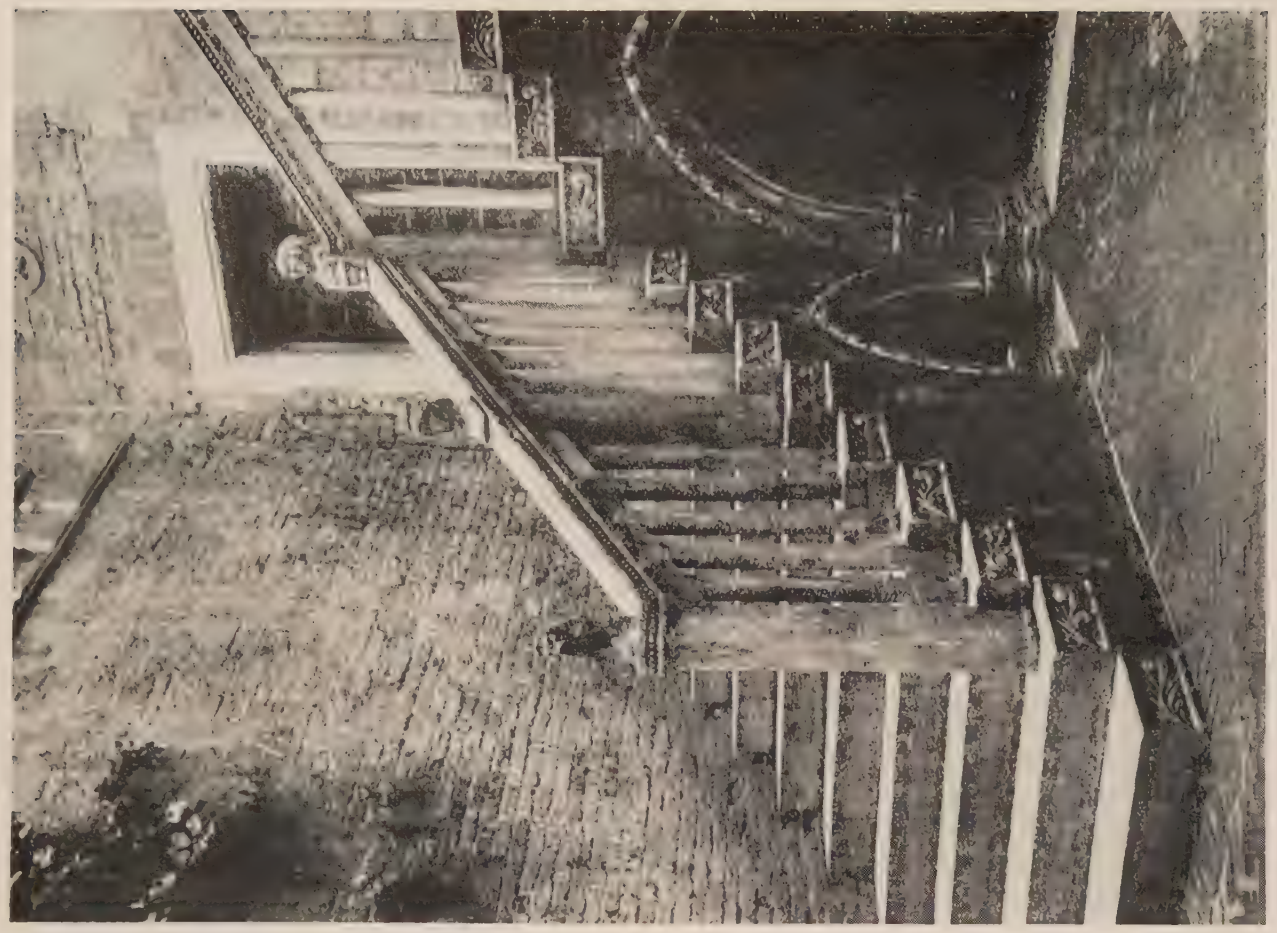
A RENAISSANCE HOUSE

FIFTEENTH CENTURY COURT, PALAZZO ZORZI

EXTERIOR STAIRS, NEAR VICENZA

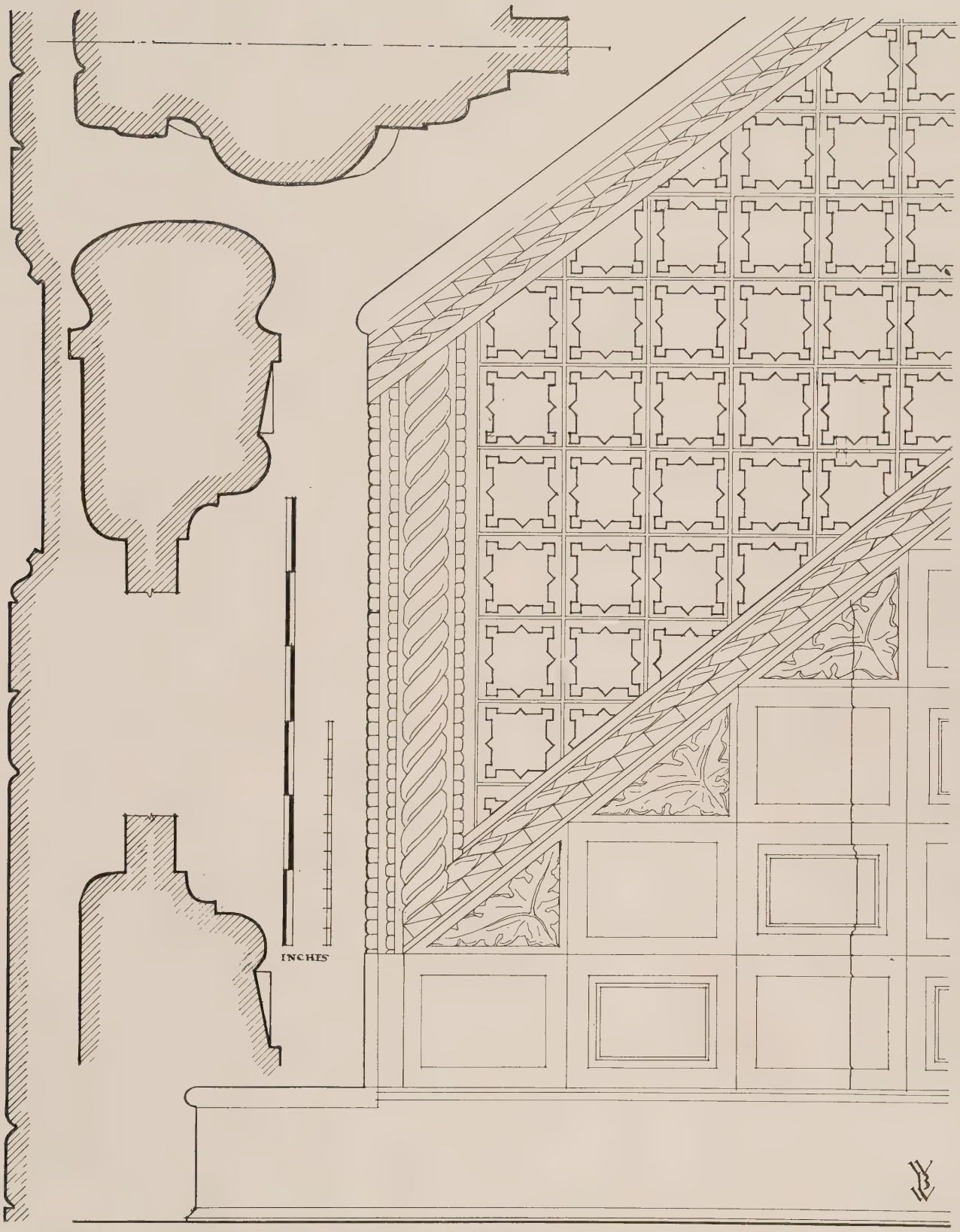


COURT, ABBEY ST. GREGORY, FOURTEENTH CENTURY GOTHIC



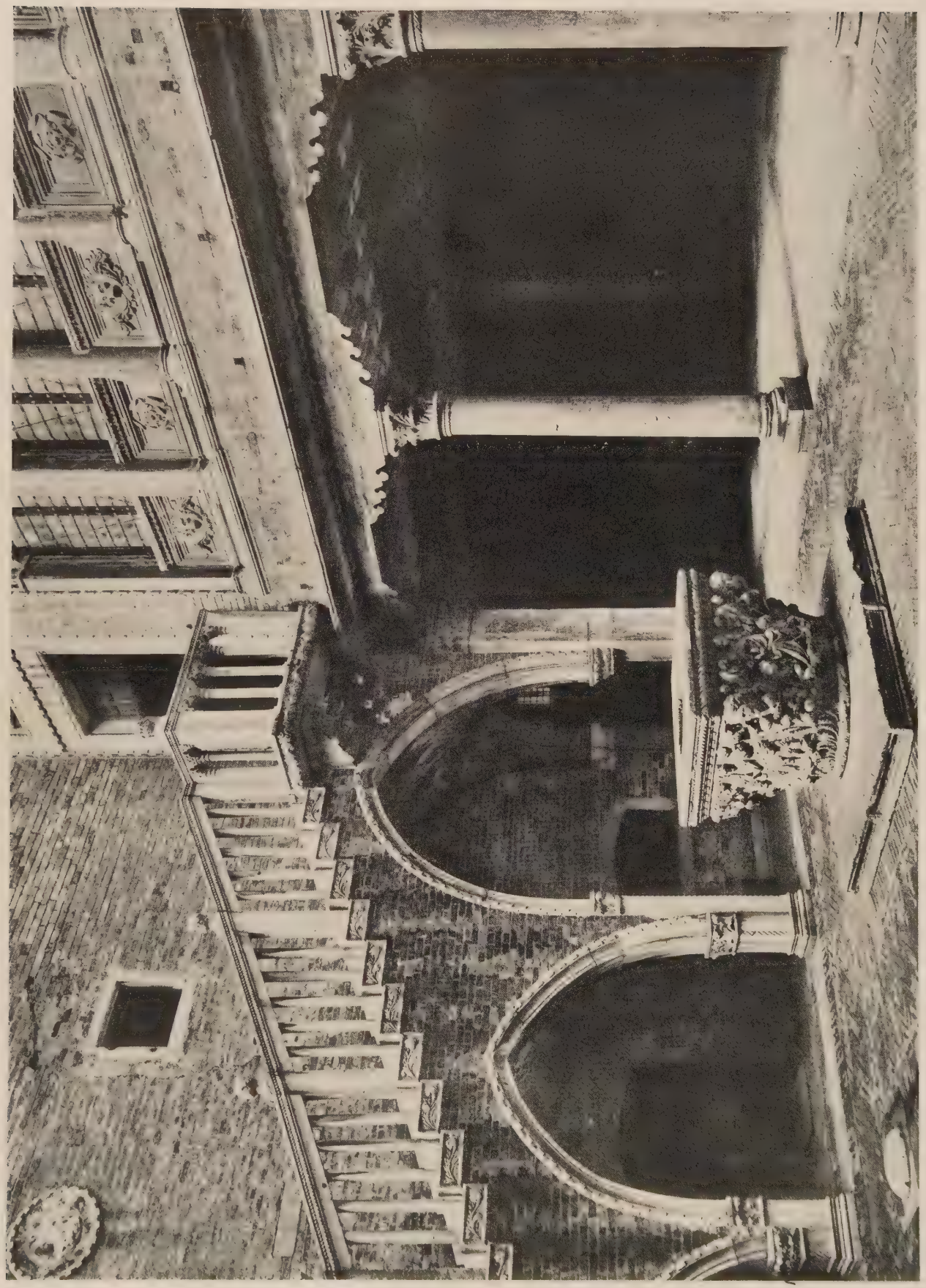
FOURTEENTH CENTURY STAIRWAY, CA D'ORO

FOURTEENTH CENTURY STAIRWAY IN THE HOUSE OF GOLDONI

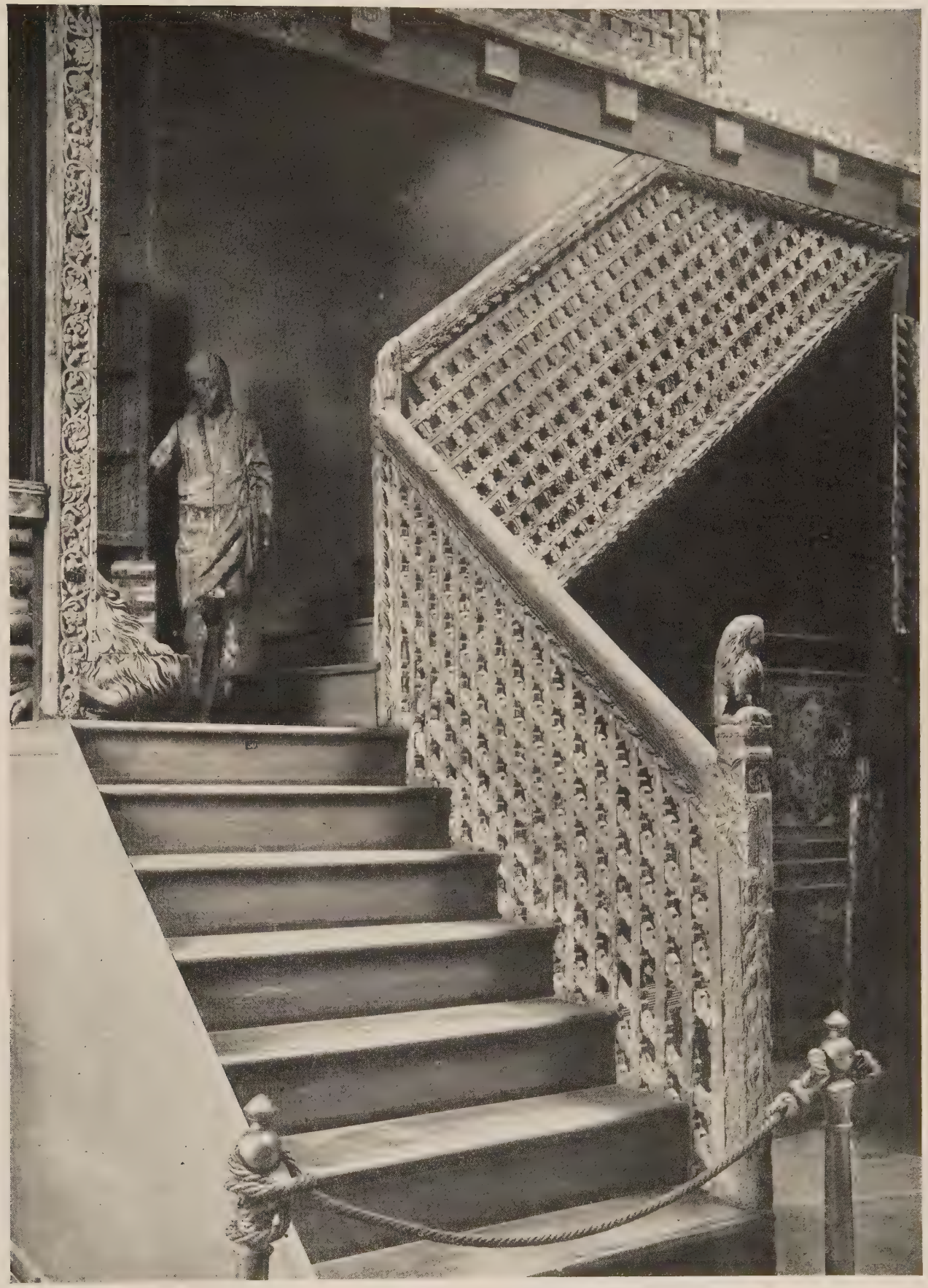


VENETIAN WOOD STAIRS

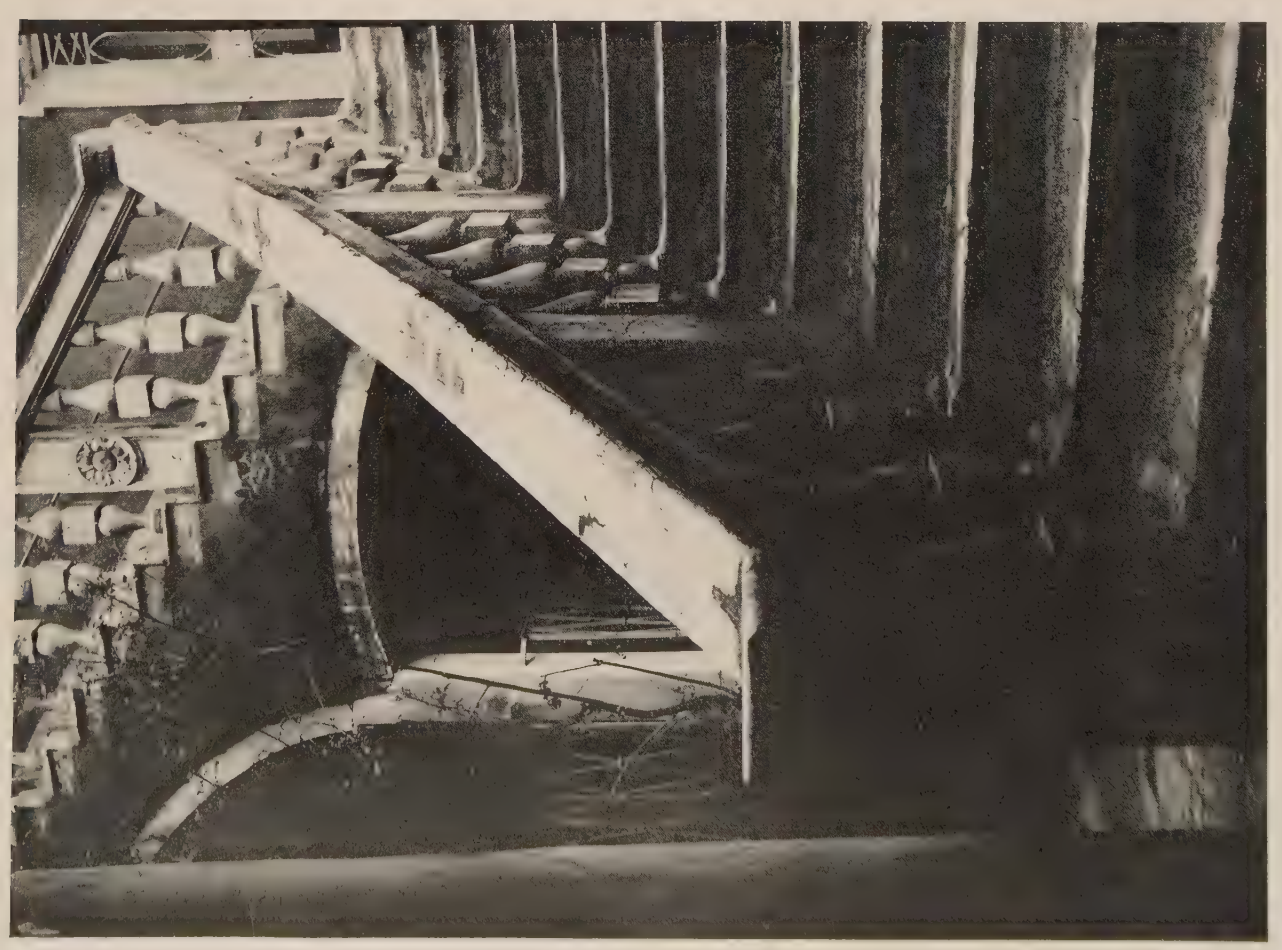
FOURTEENTH CENTURY



FOURTEENTH CENTURY COURT OF THE CA D'ORO

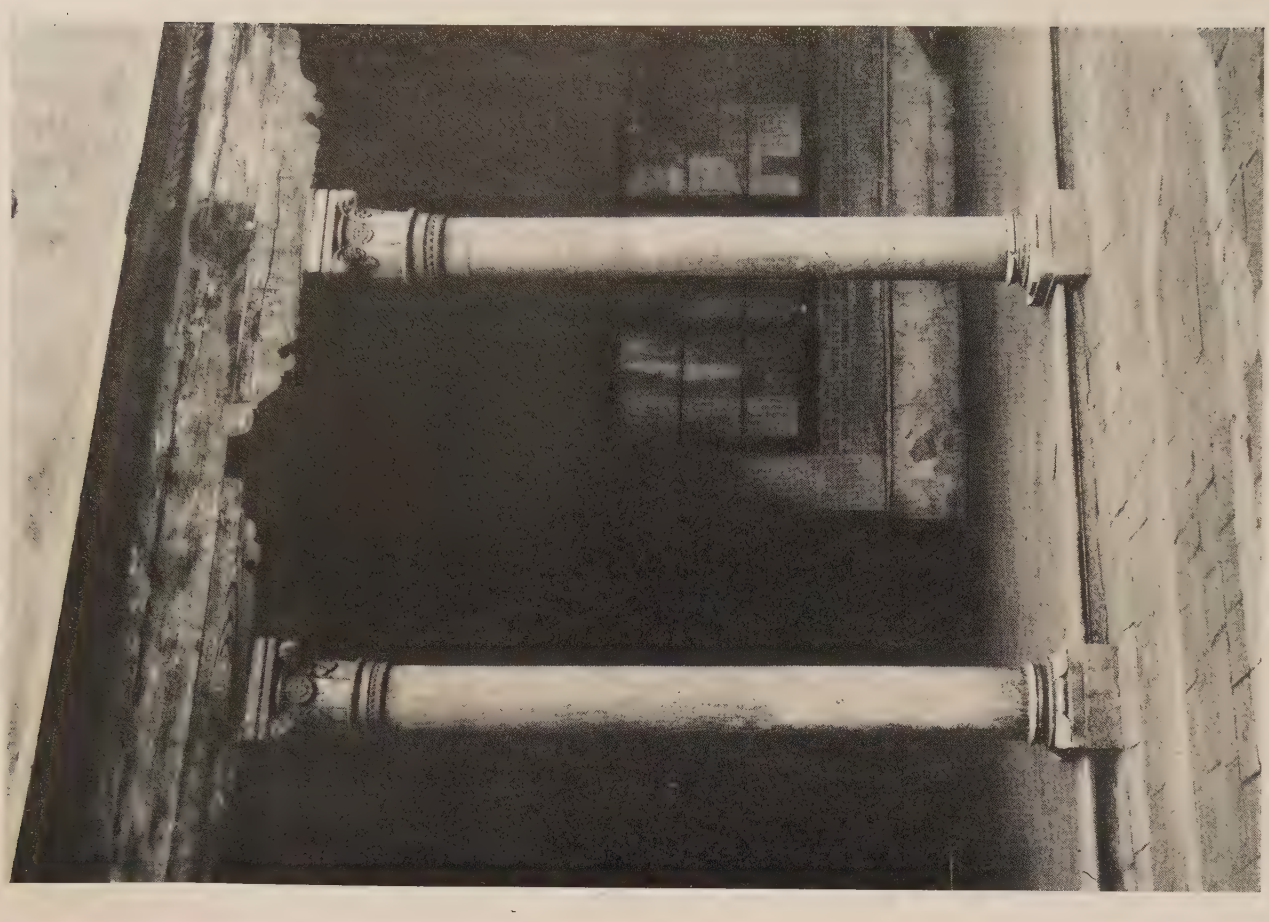


WOOD STAIR RAIL FROM PALAZZO AGNELLO



A STAIRWAY WITHIN A STAIRWAY

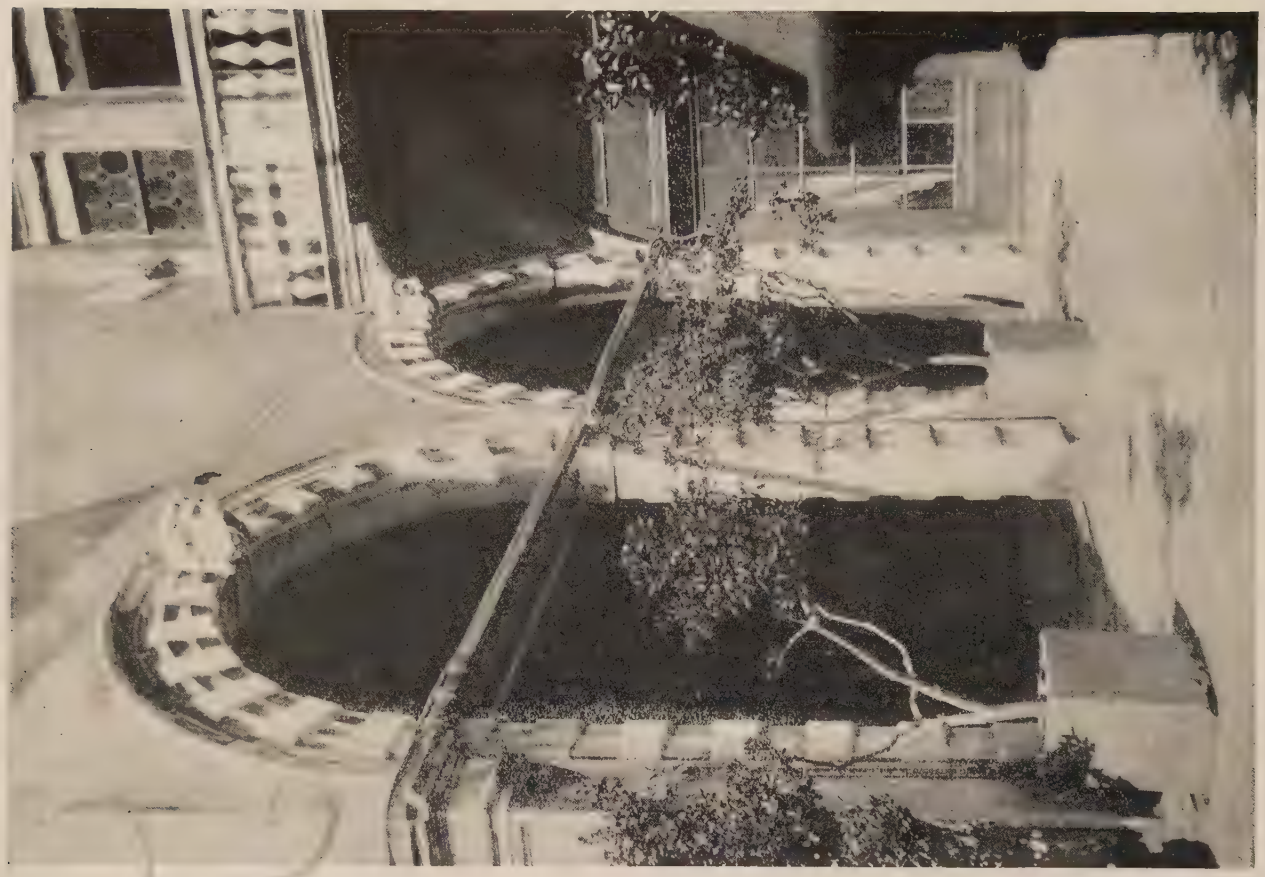
FOURTEENTH CENTURY STAIRWAY NEAR S. MARIA MIRACOLI



FOURTEENTH CENTURY COLUMNS AND CORBELLS

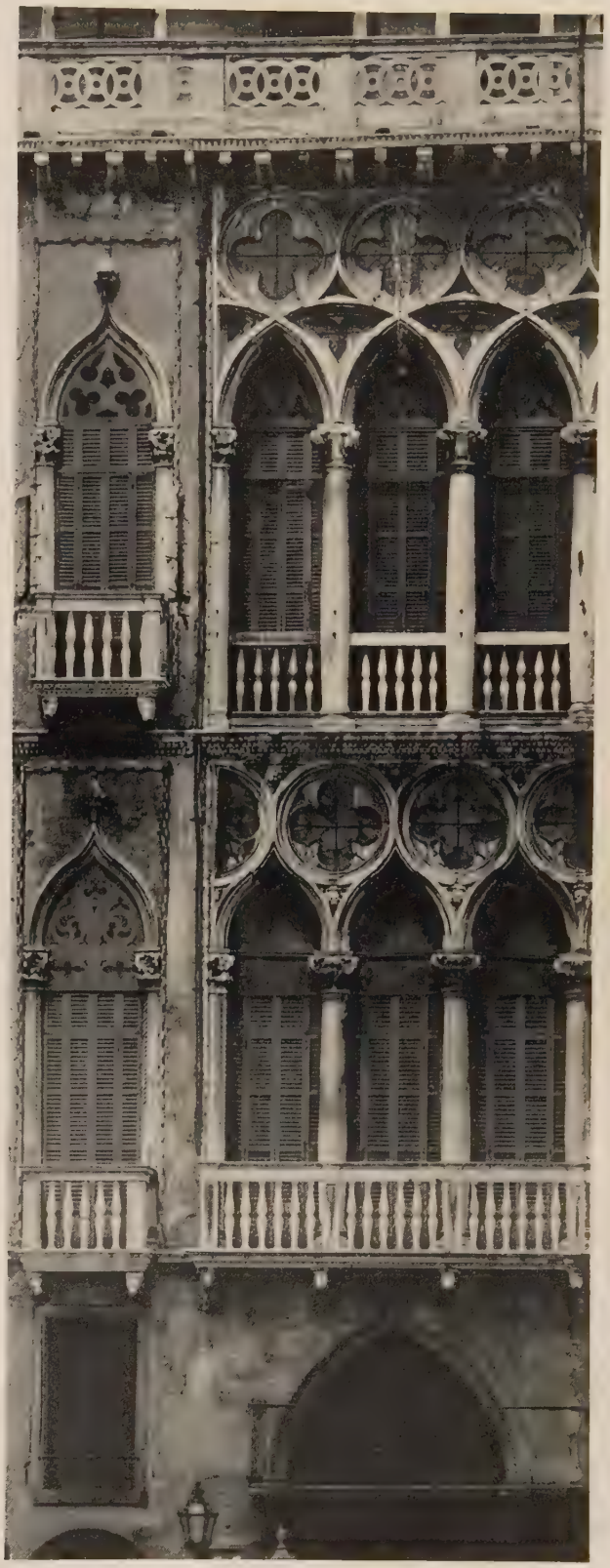
ELEVENTH CENTURY ARCHES AND CAPITALS,
PALAZZO LOREDAN

THIRTEENTH CENTURY ARCHES AND CAPITALS

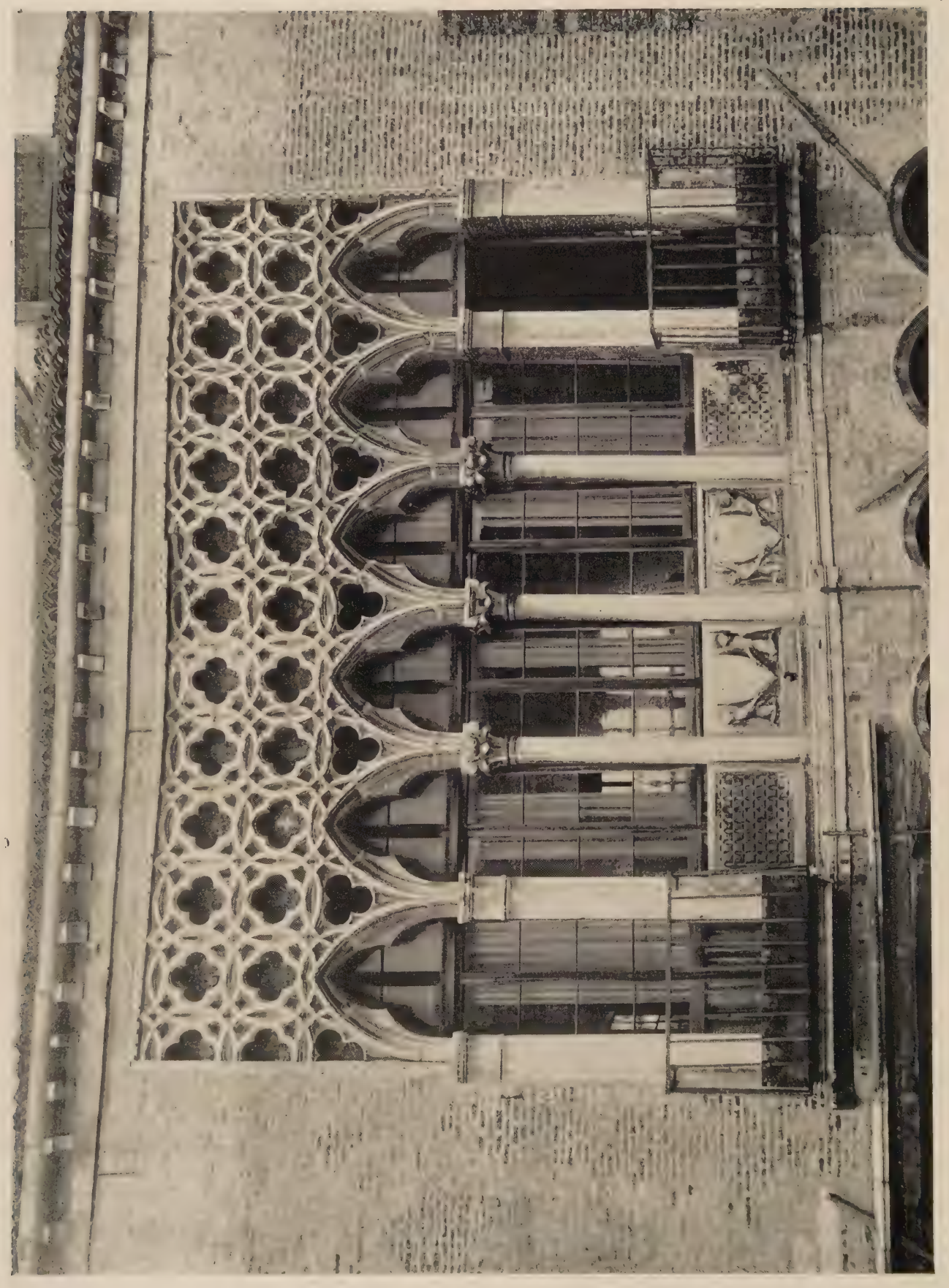


SIXTEENTH CENTURY COURTS

PALAZZO FASCARI
DETAIL OF FACADE



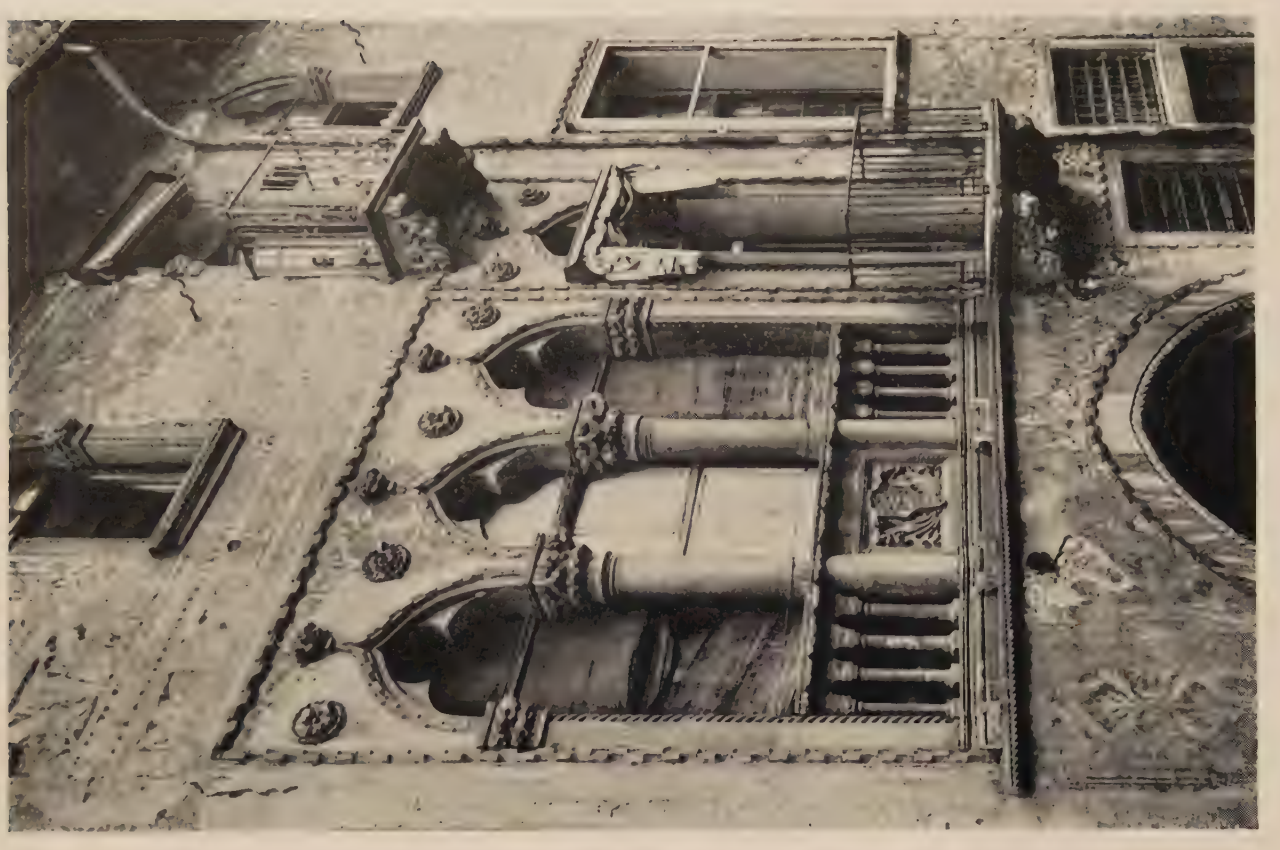
PALAZZO PISANI
DETAIL OF FACADE



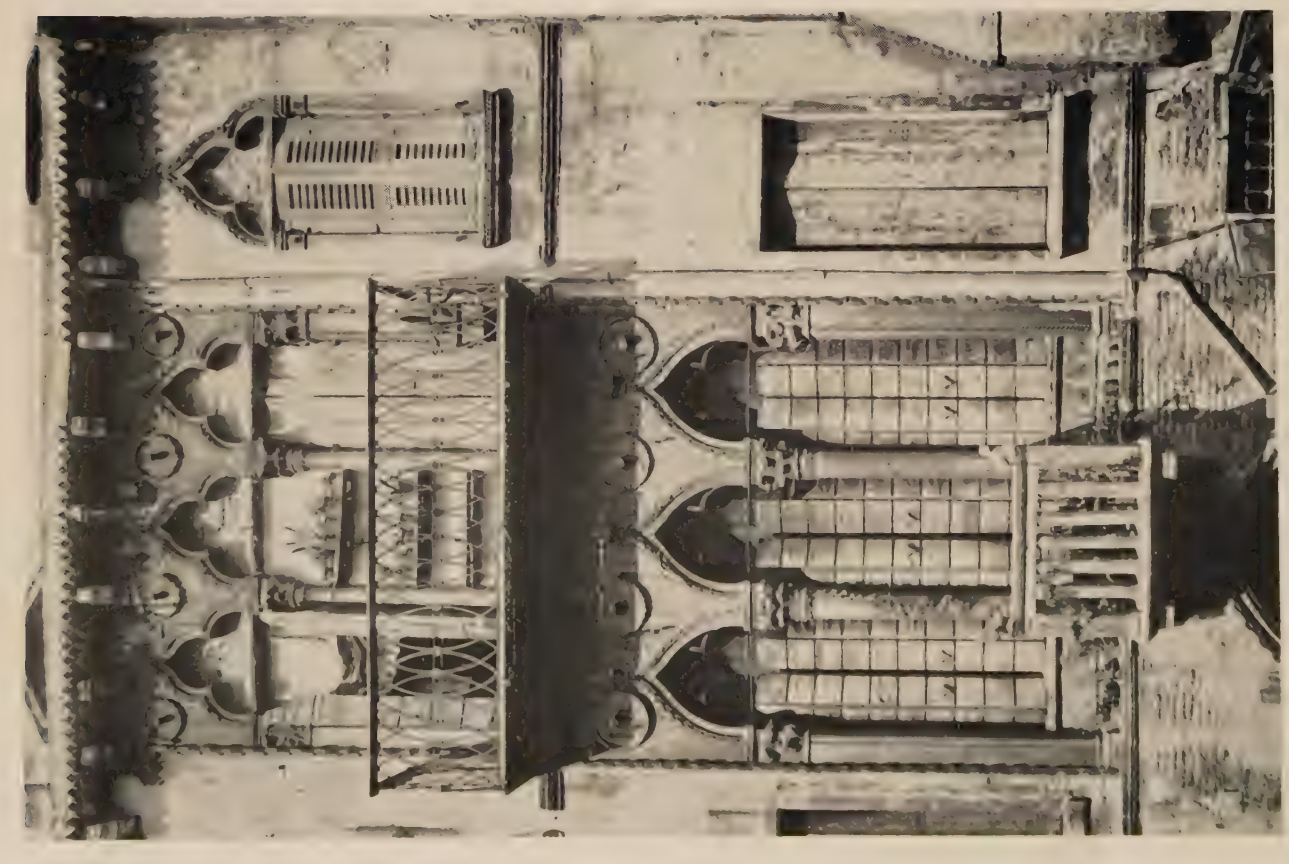
PALAZZO ARIANI, FOURTEENTH CENTURY FACADE DETAIL

PALAZZO ORFEI, GOTHIC LOGGIAS WITH LATER ALTERATIONS

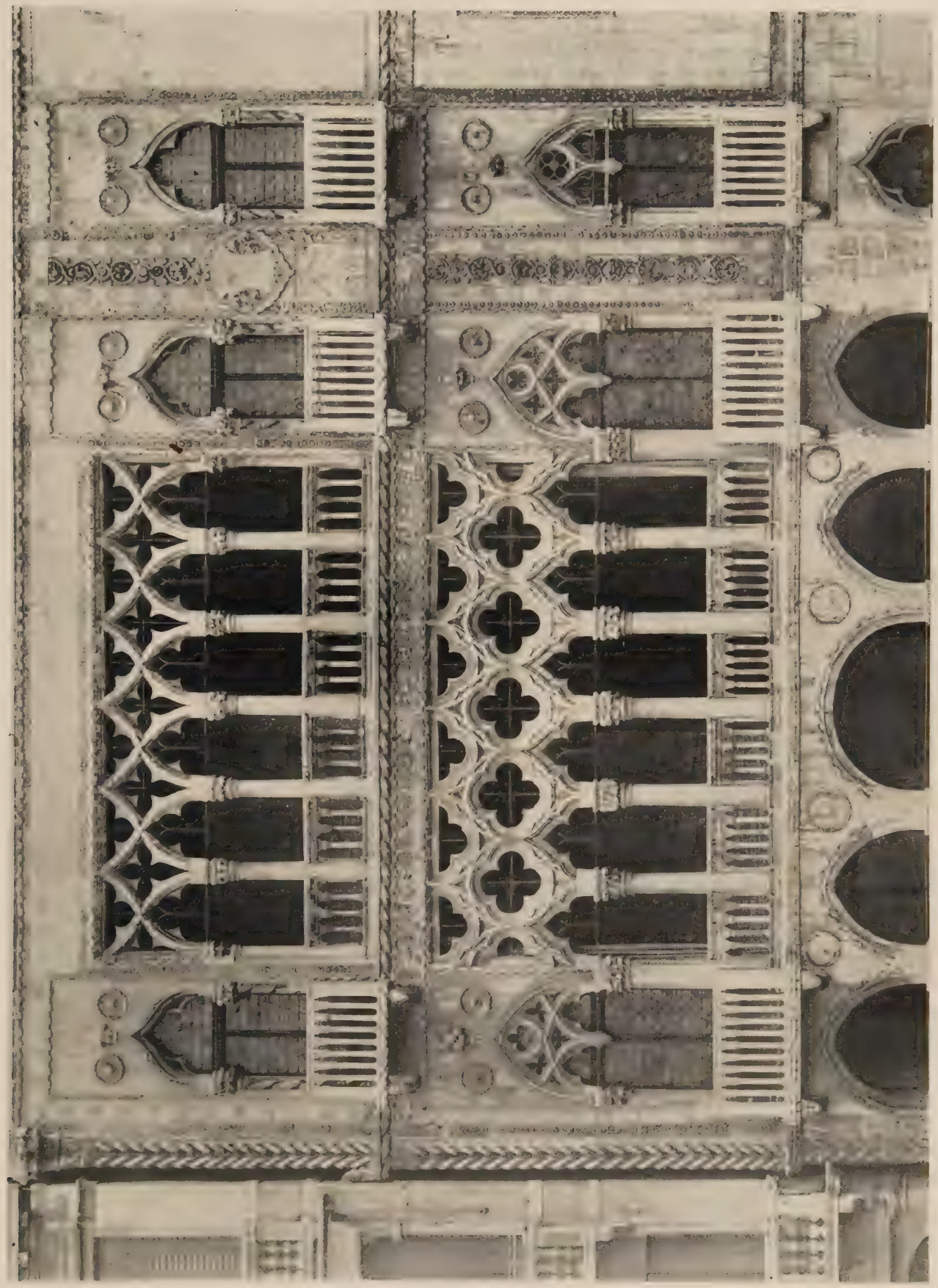
BYZANTINE WINDOWS AND RENAISSANCE BALCONIES—
HOUSE IN CAMPO S. MARIA FORMOSA



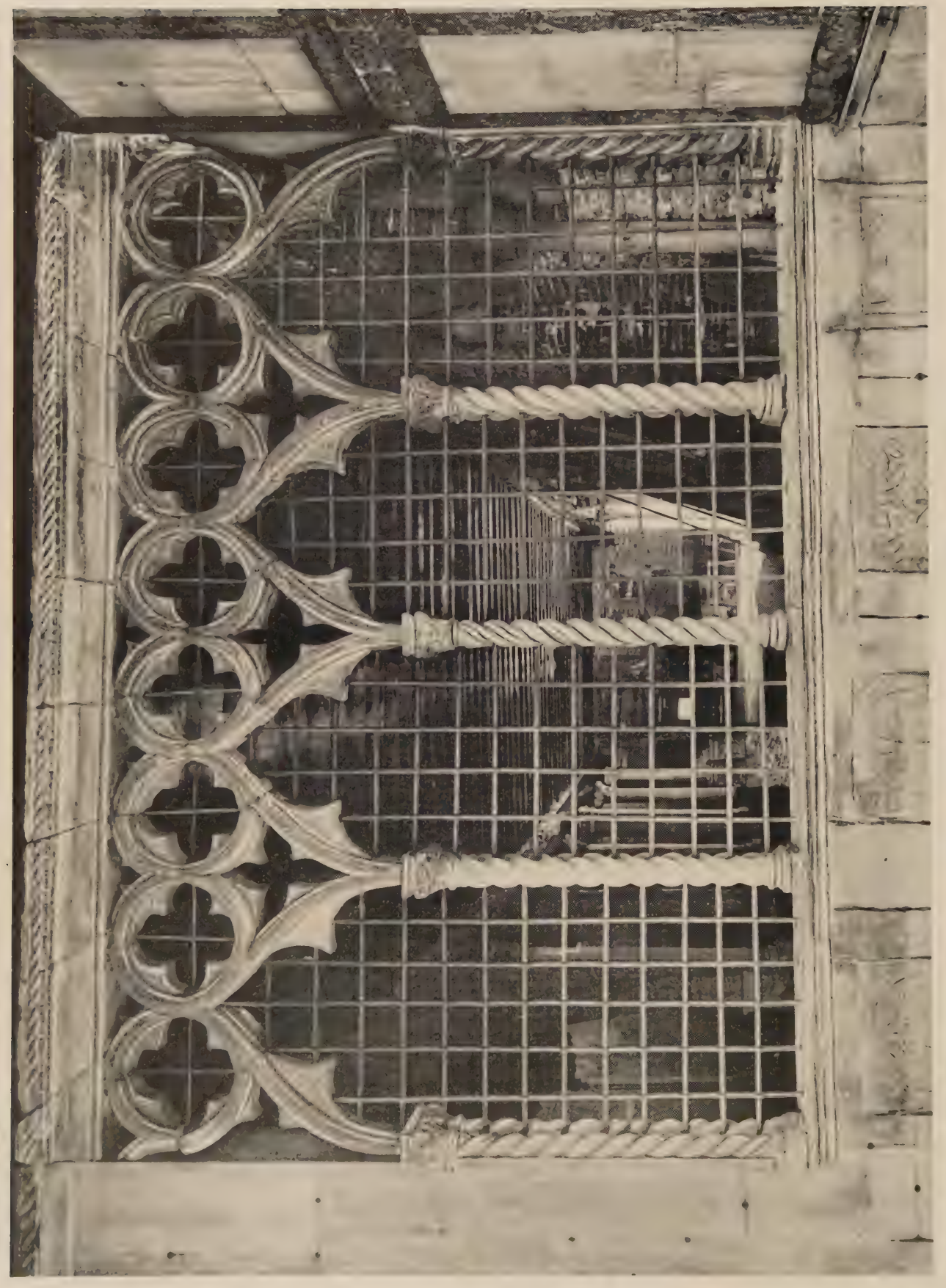
FOURTEENTH CENTURY FACADE DETAILS, VICENZA



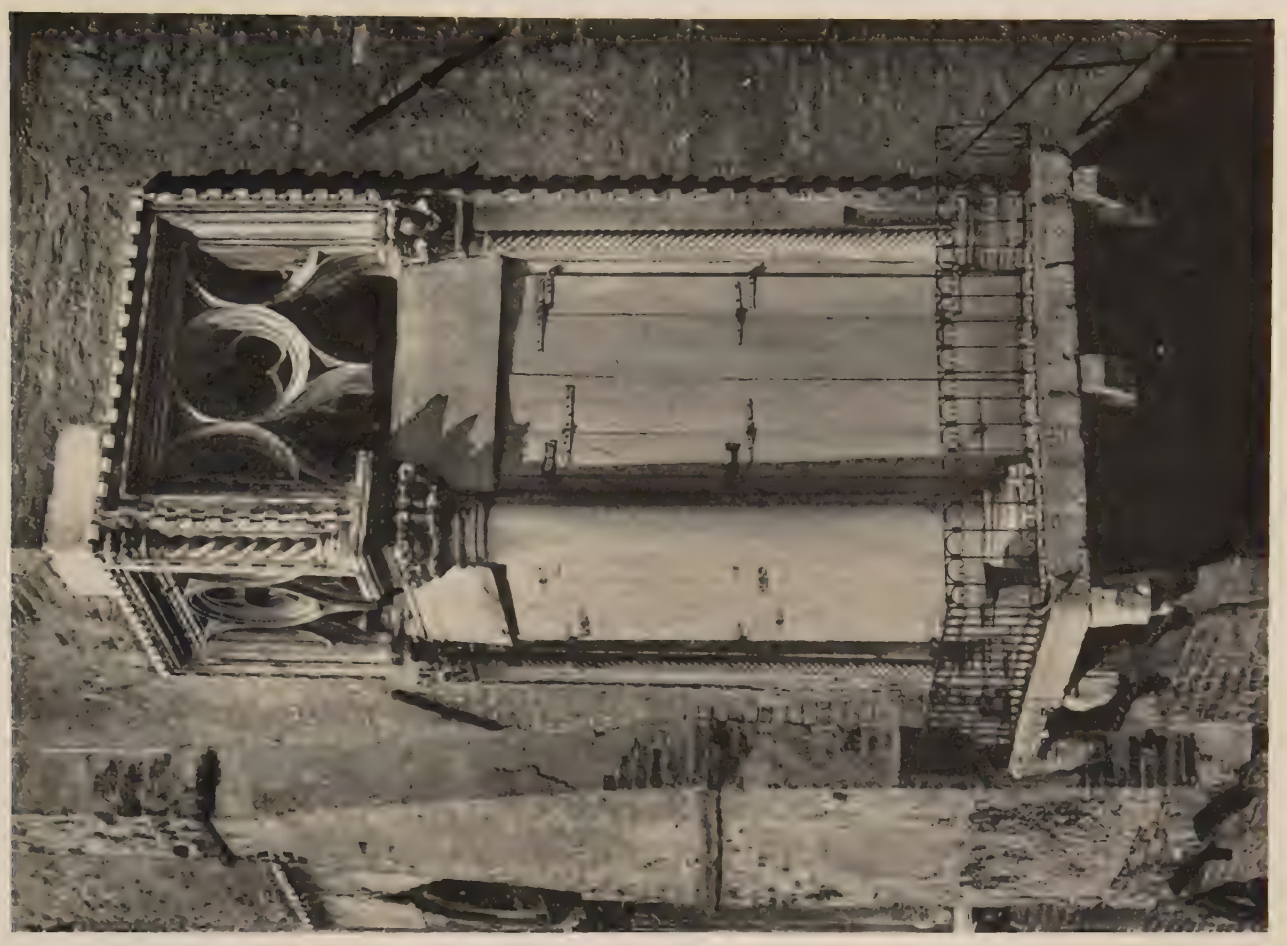
FACADE DETAILS, PALAZZO BERNARDO

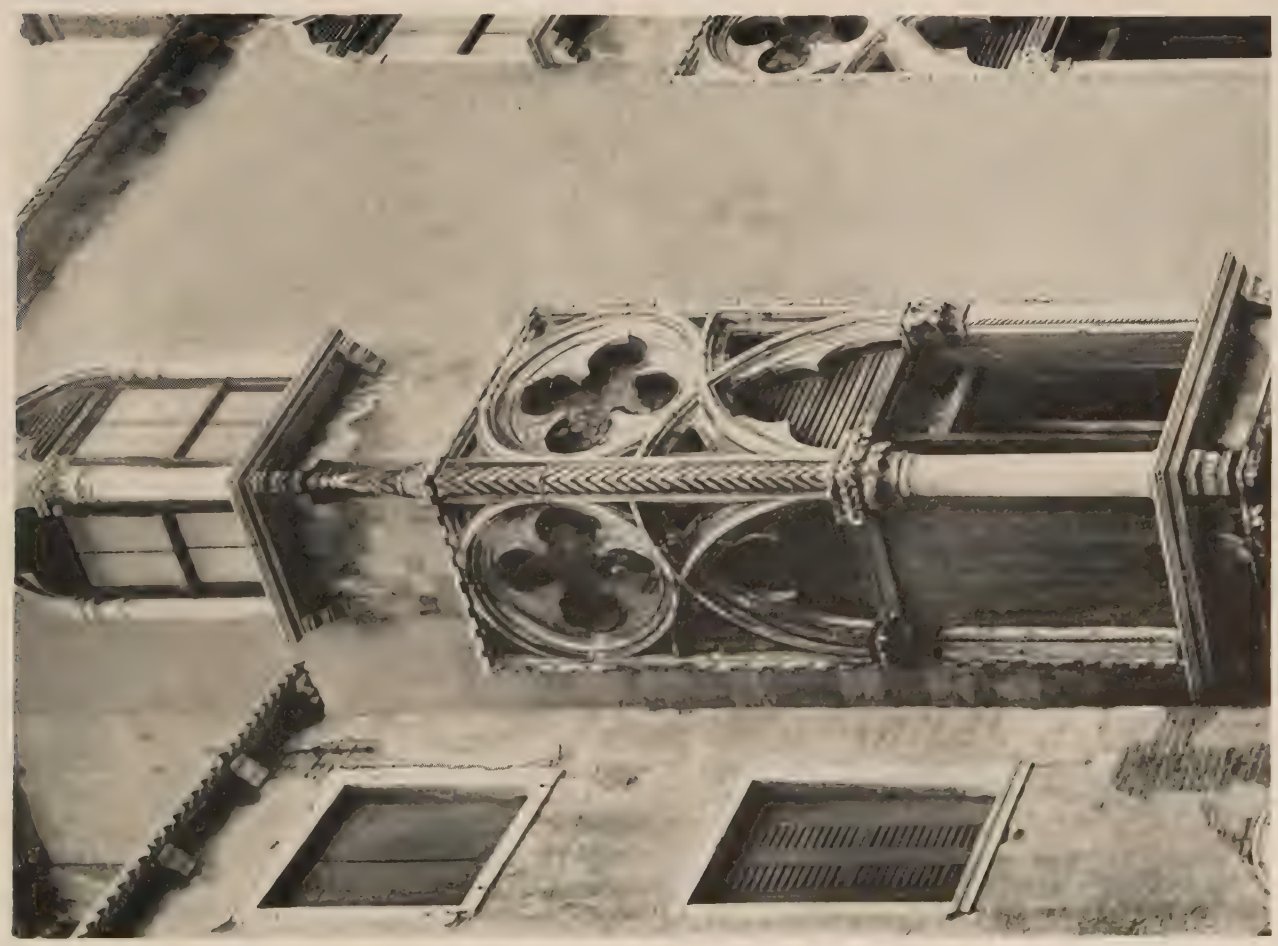


FOURTEENTH CENTURY FACADE DETAILS, CA D'ORO

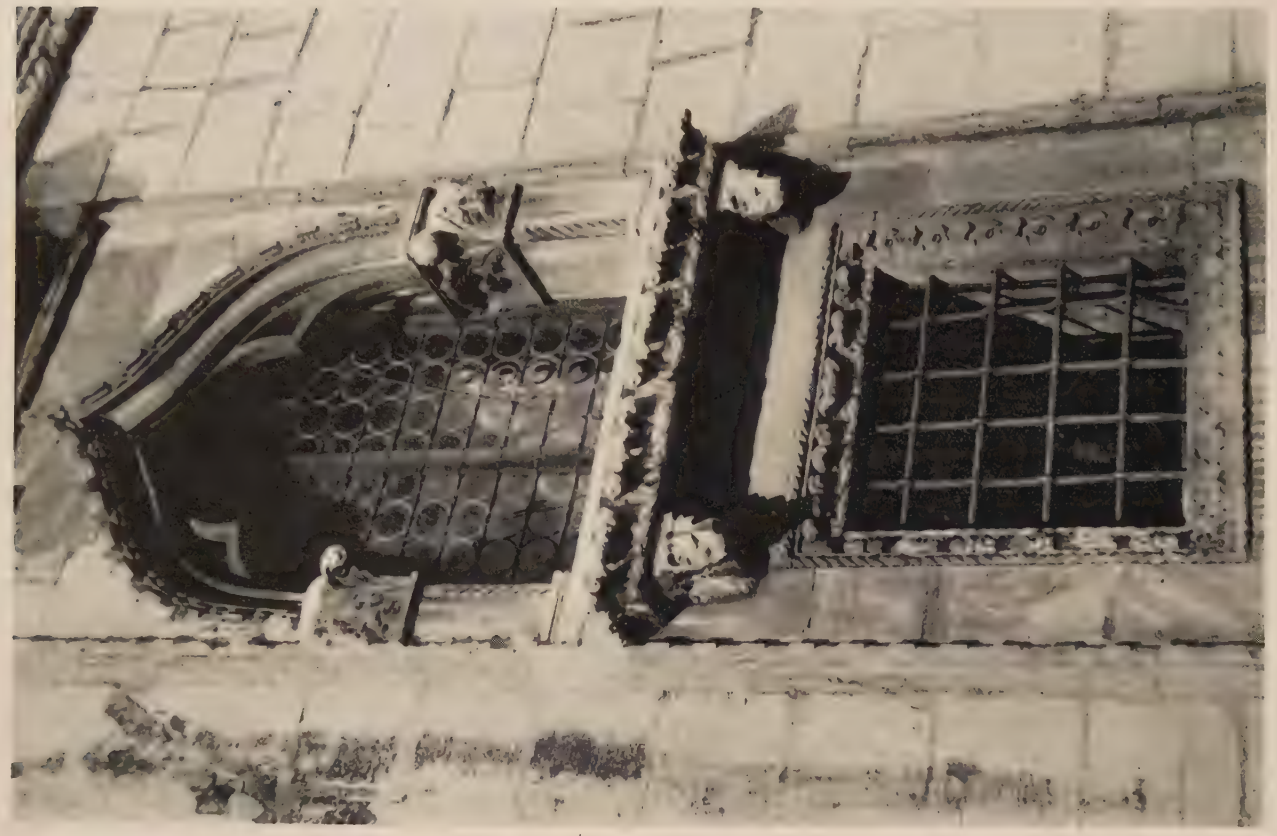


FOURTEENTH CENTURY PORTICO, CA D'ORO





CORNER WINDOWS



FOURTEENTH CENTURY WINDOWS, CA D'ORO

FOURTEENTH CENTURY WINDOW
PALAZZO AL PONTE DIE GALEGHERI

GOTHIC WINDOW GROUPS

GOTHIC WINDOW GROUPS

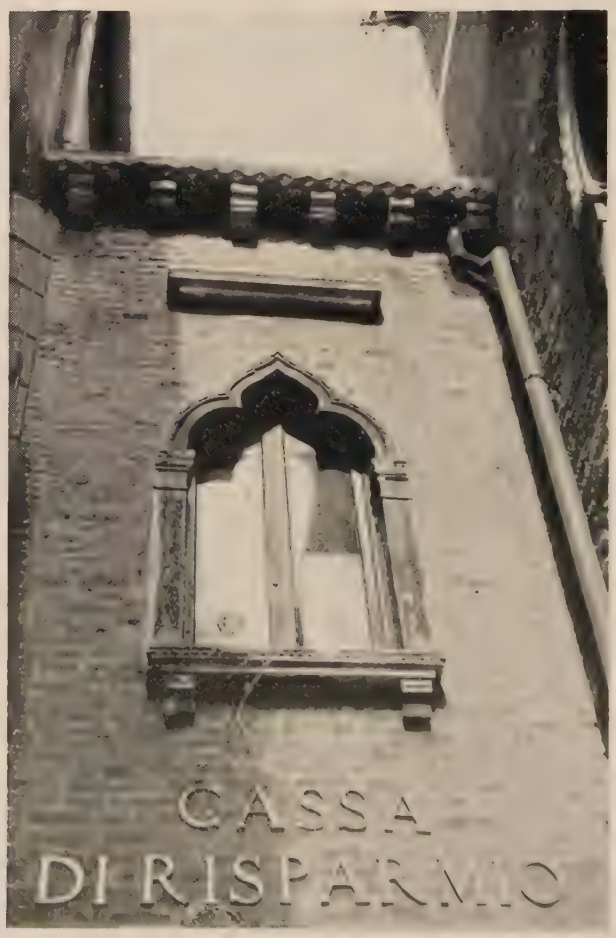
LOGGIA, PALAZZO SIGNORINI, VICENZA

GOTHIC WINDOW GROUPS

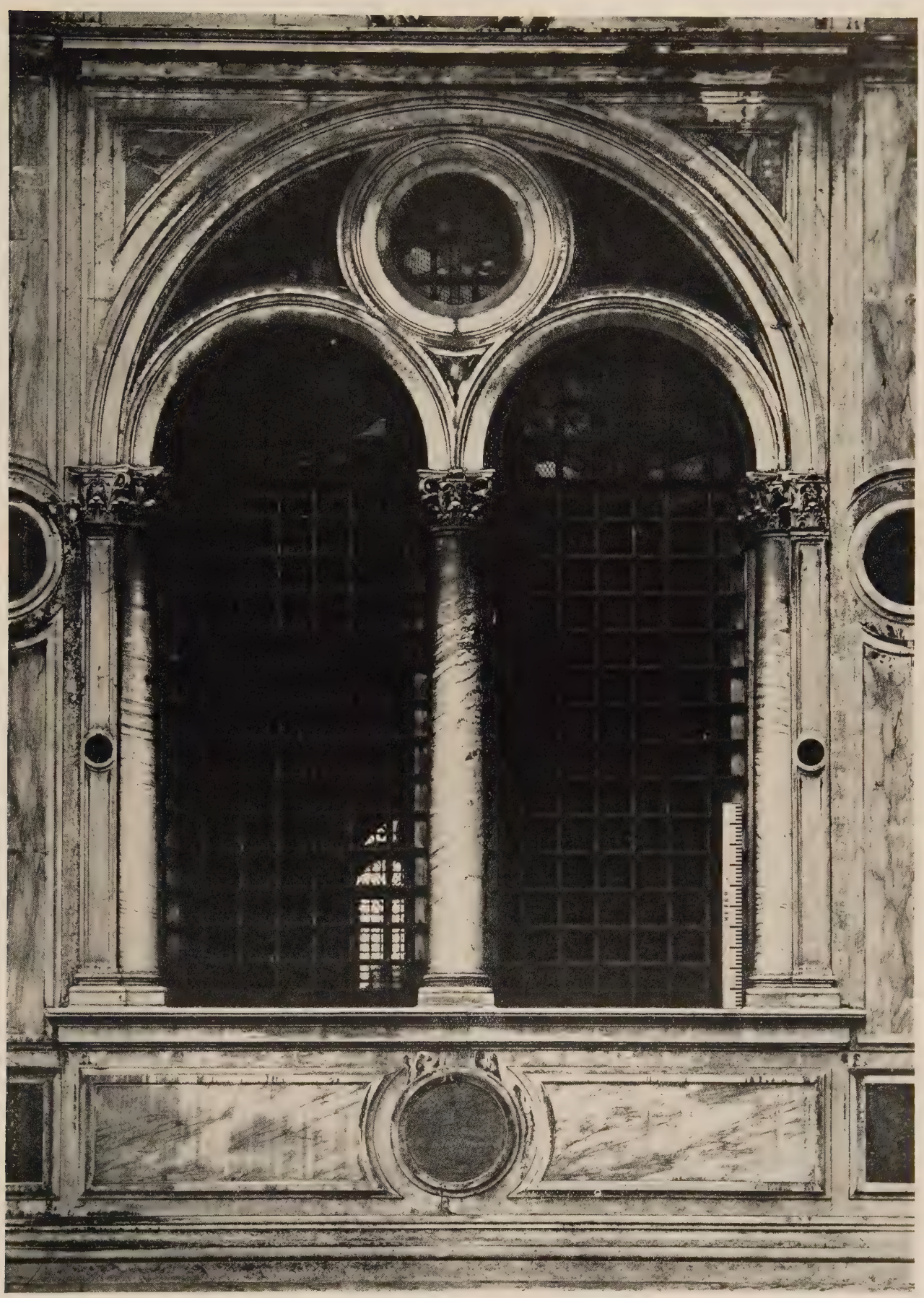
GOTHIC WINDOW GROUPS

ORNAMENTS IN WALL, PALAZZO DELLA RAGIONE, PADUA

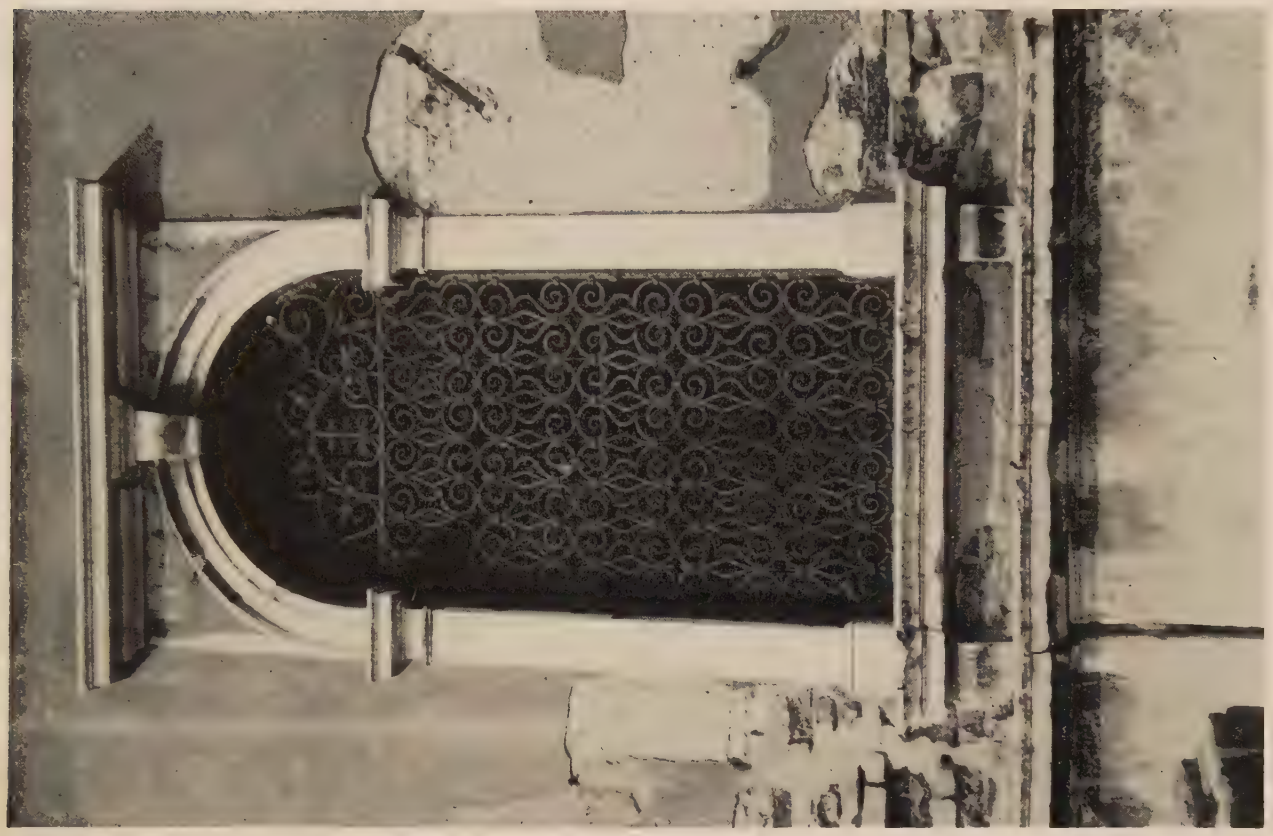
THIRTEENTH CENTURY BALCONY, PALAZZO DELLA RAGIONE, PADUA



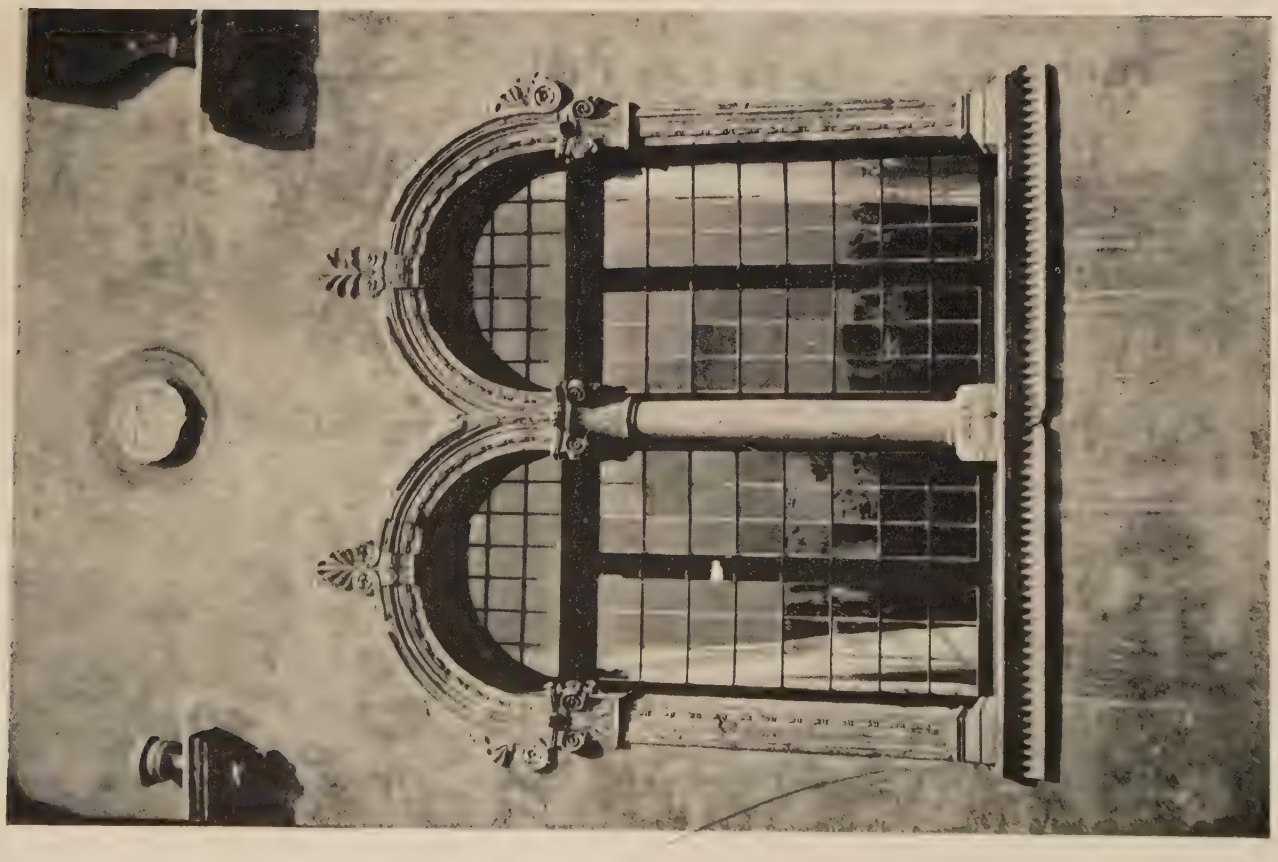
GOTHIC WINDOWS



EARLY RENAISSANCE WINDOW, SCUOLO DI S. ROCCO



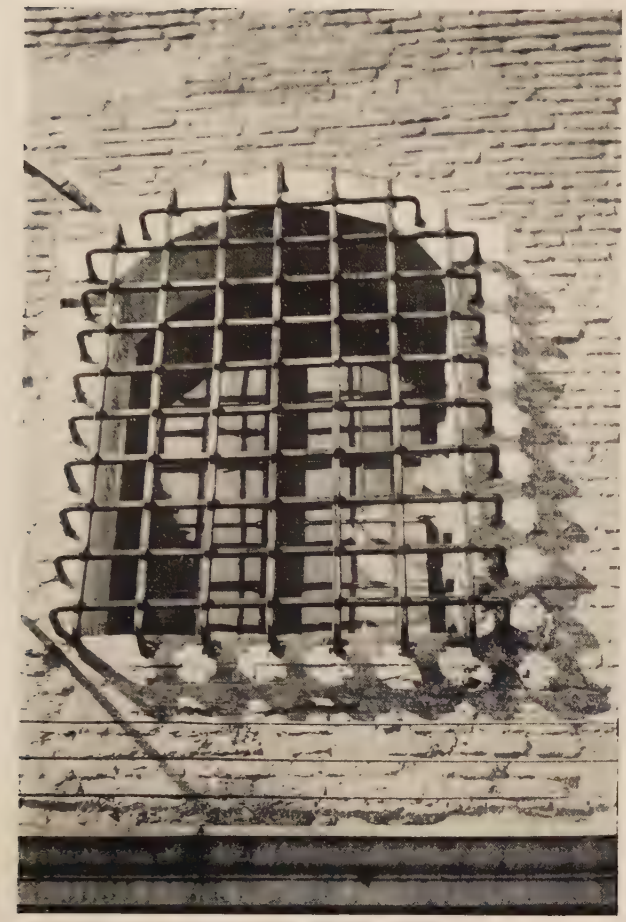
CHARACTERISTIC VENETIAN RENAISSANCE ARCH AND CORNICE WINDOW

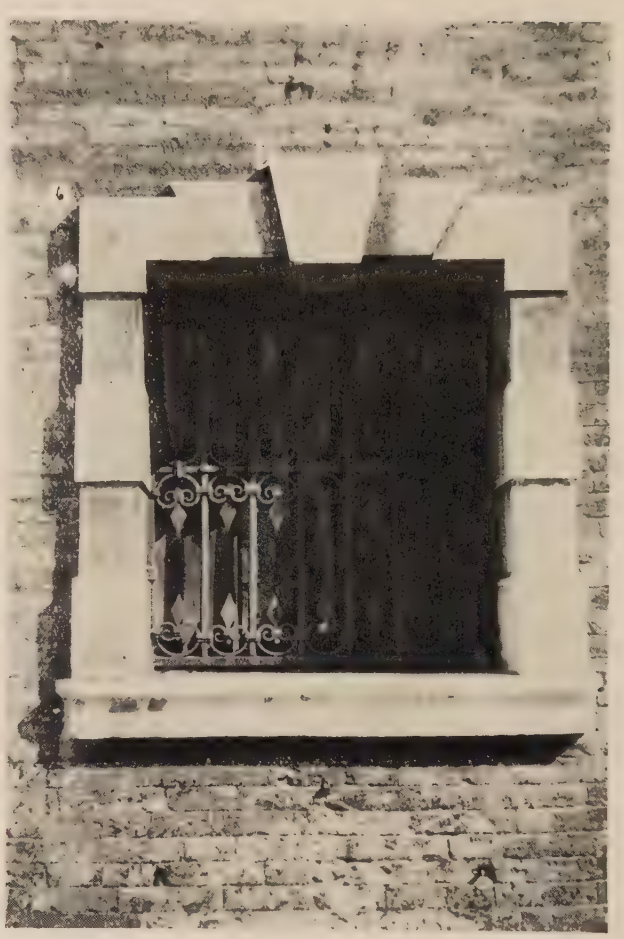


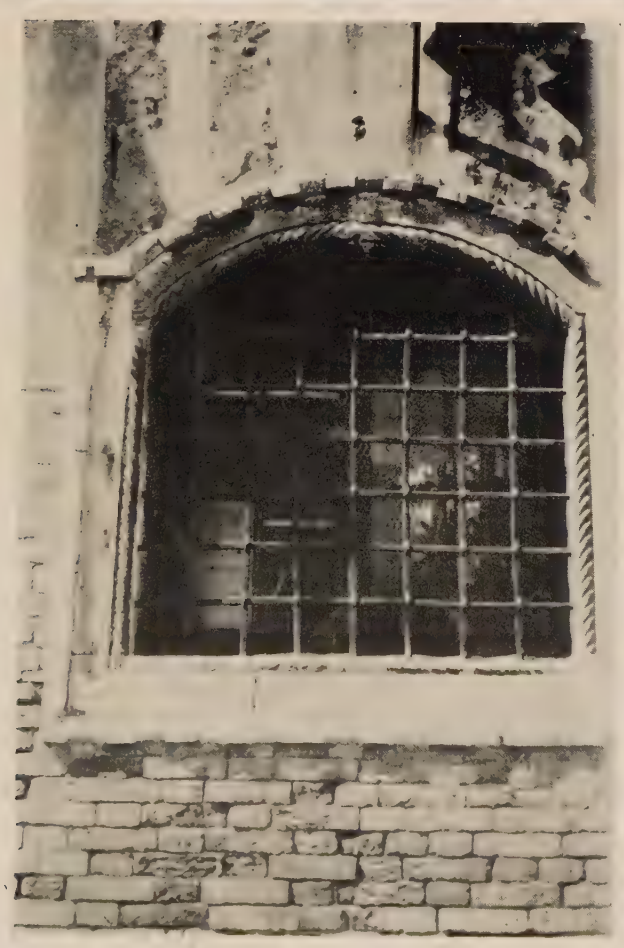
EARLY RENAISSANCE WINDOW

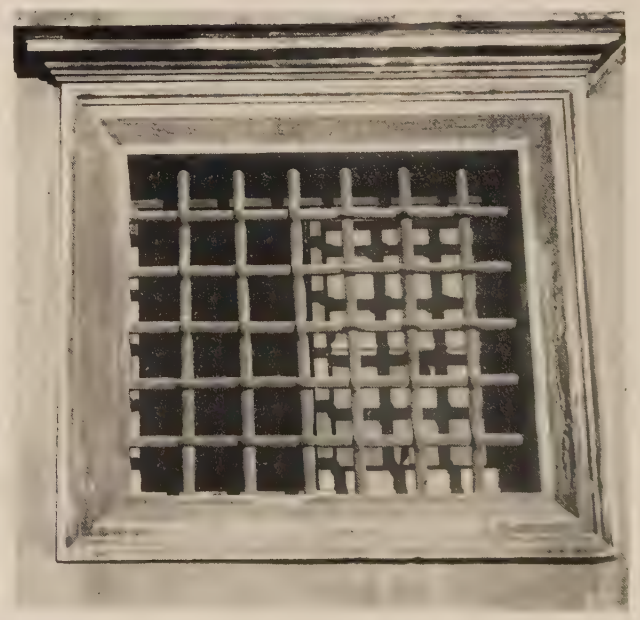
FIFTEENTH CENTURY DOUBLE ARCH WINDOW

SIXTEENTH CENTURY ARCHED WINDOWS, TREVISO

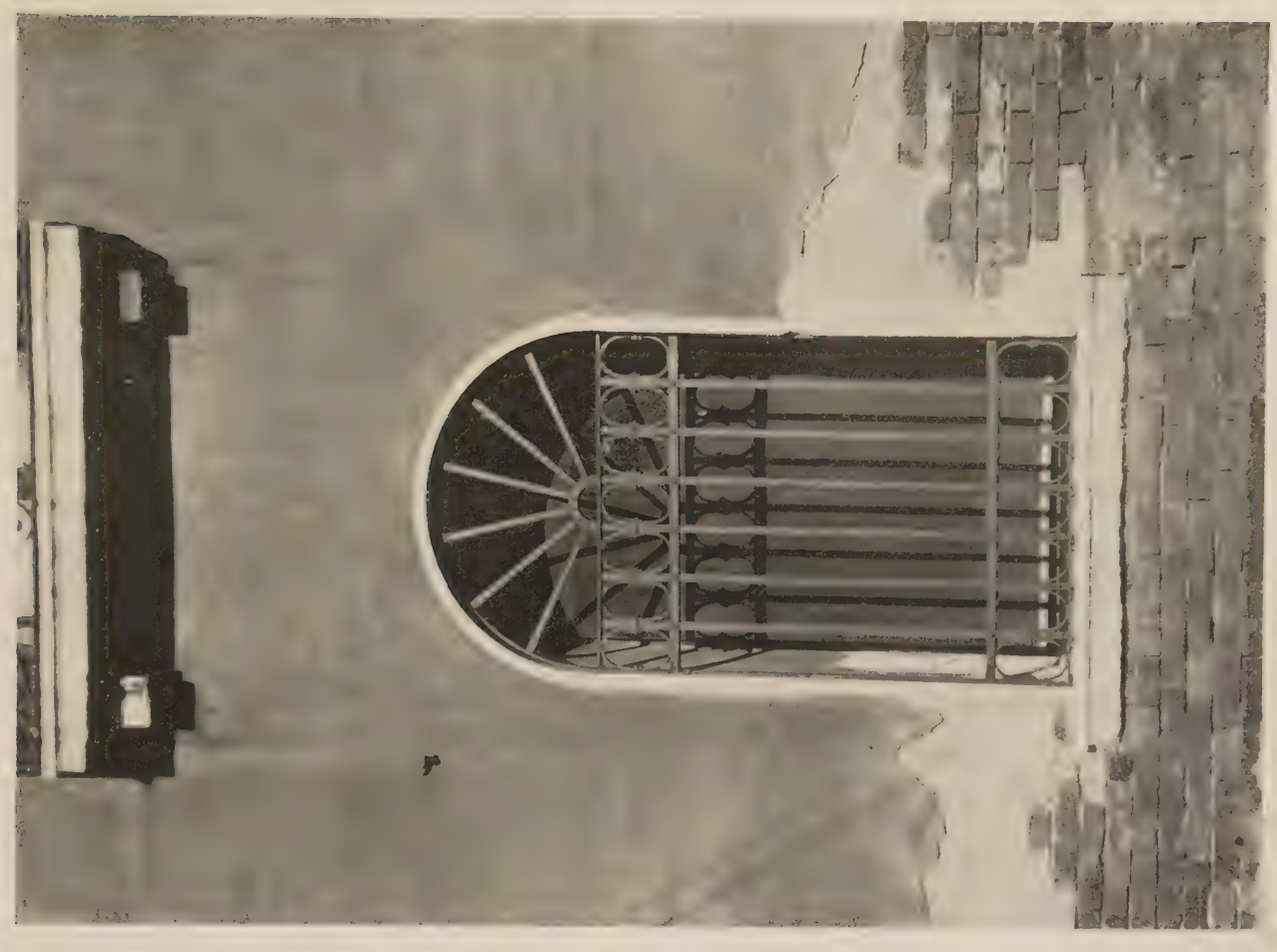








TYPICAL LOWER STORY WINDOWS



A MARBLE ARCH IN BRICK WALL

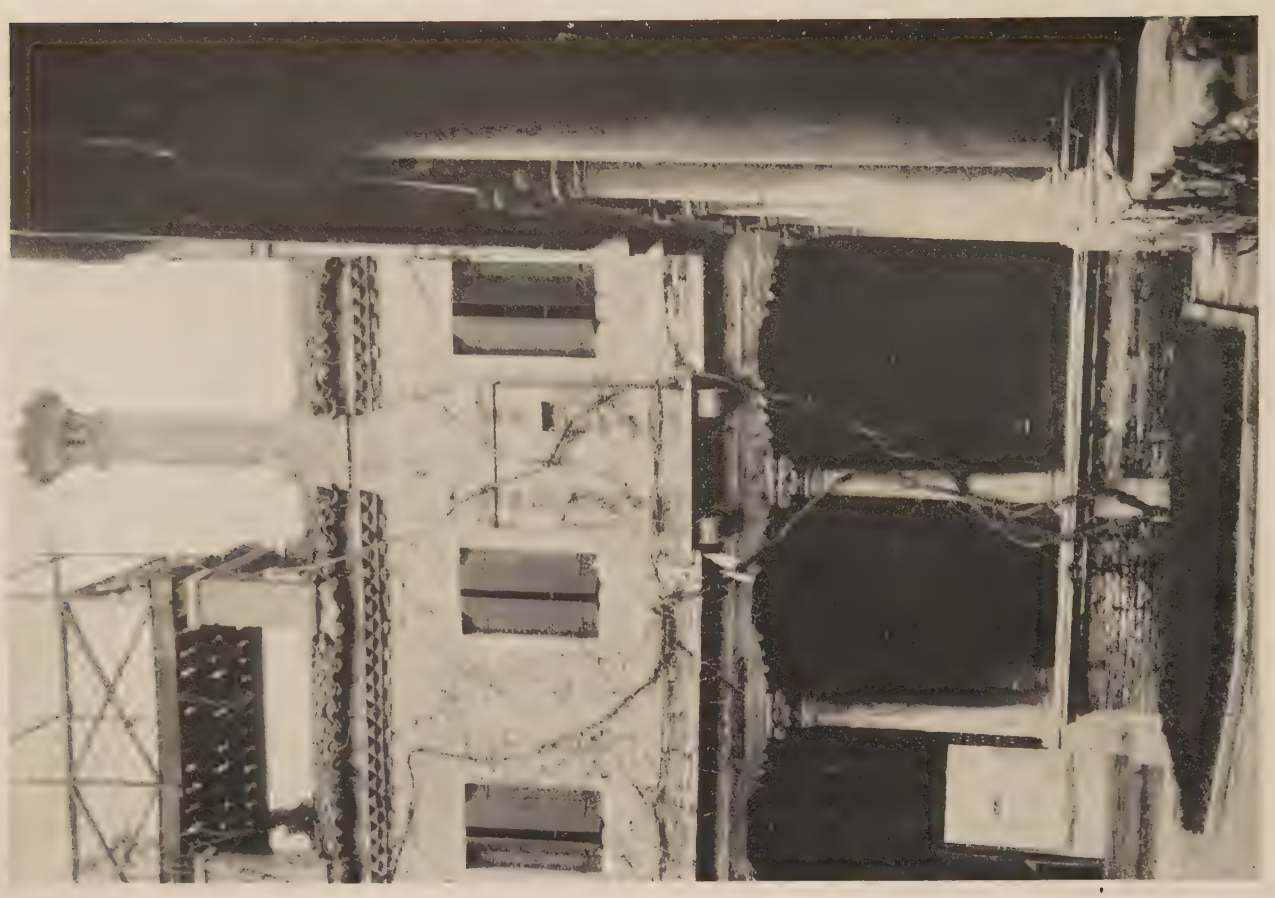
A BAY WINDOW OF WOOD

GOTHIC WINDOWS WITH BALCONIES

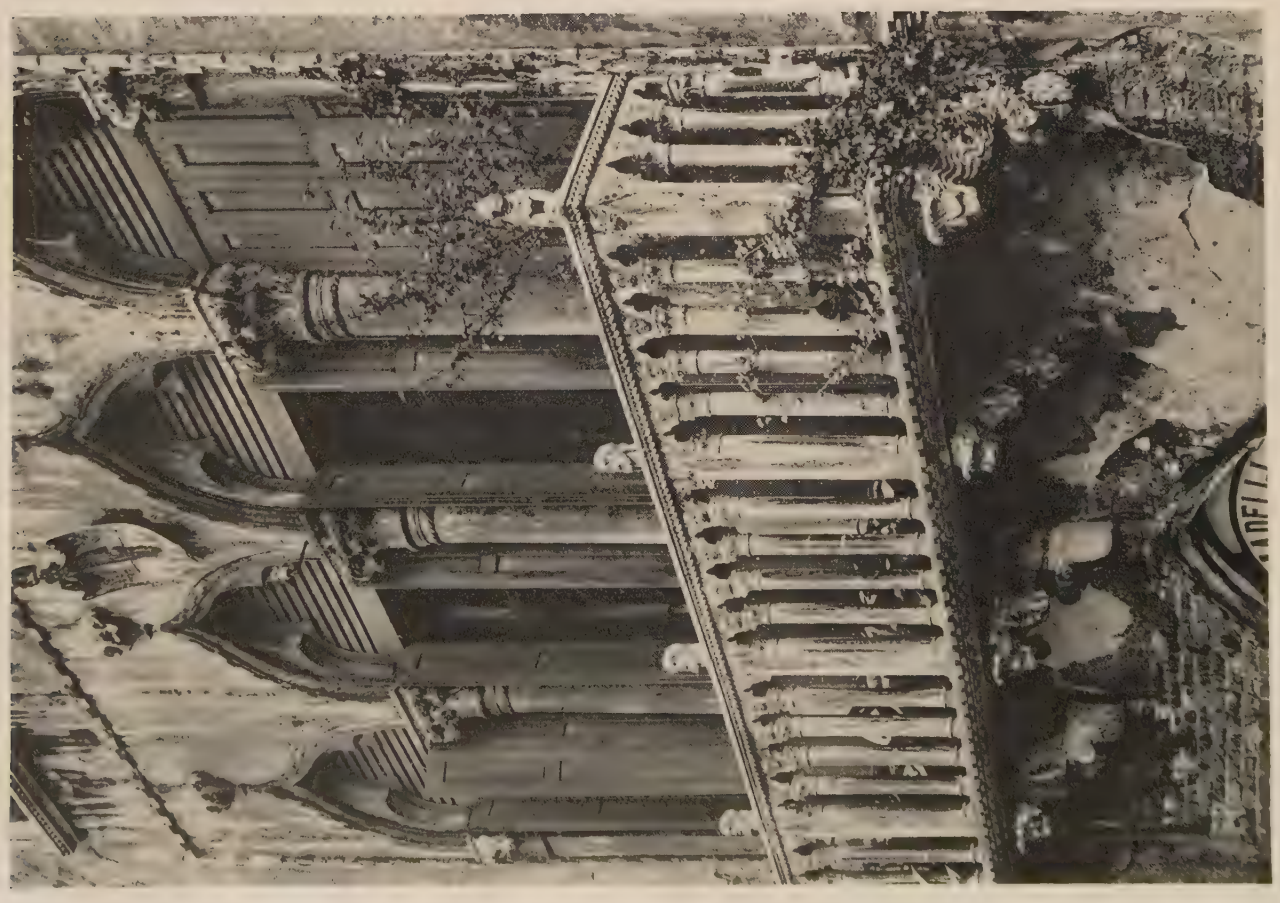
GOTHIC WINDOW AND RENAISSANCE BALUSTERS

GOTHIC WINDOWS AND BALCONIES

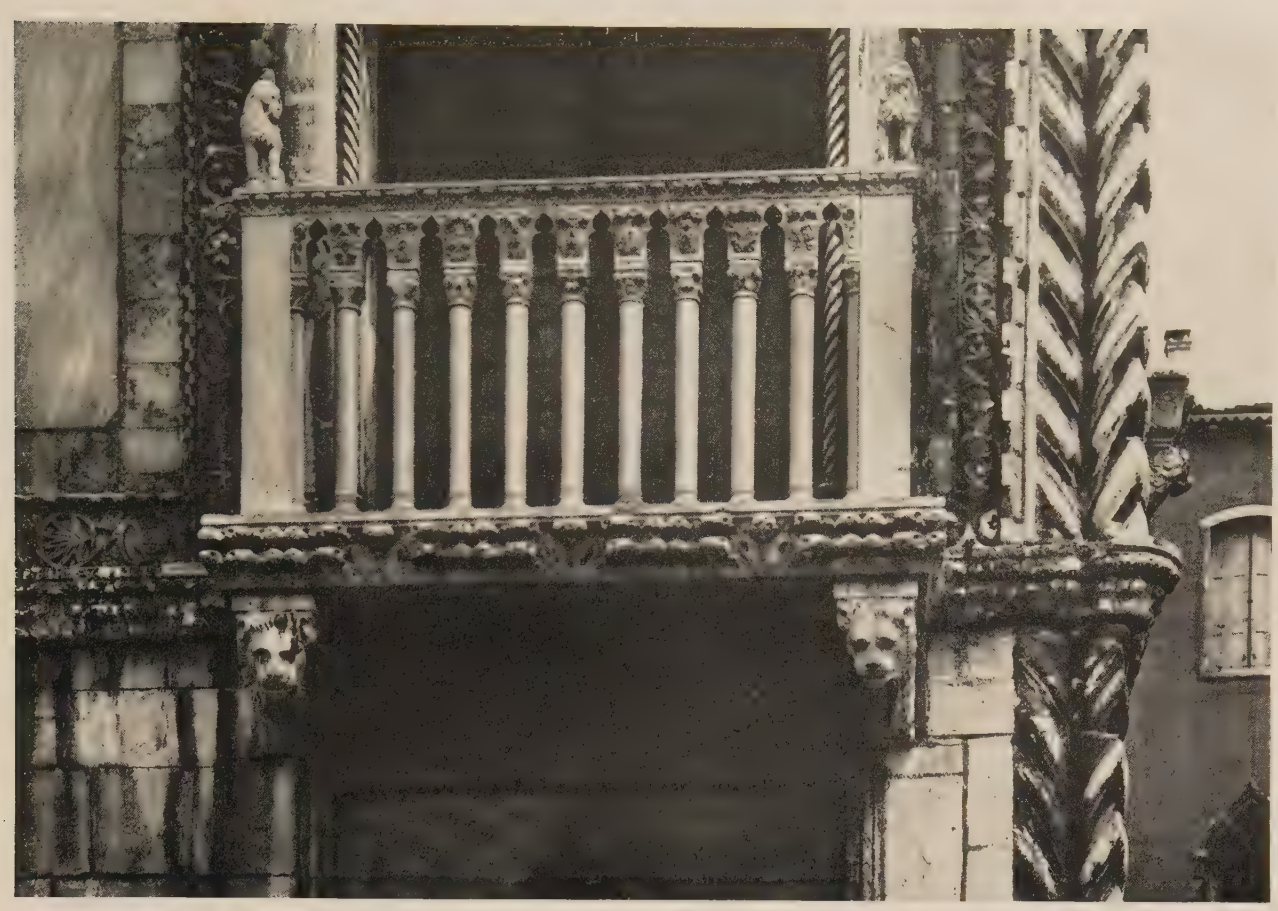
GOTHIC WINDOWS AND BALCONIES



COURT, ABBEY ST. GREGORY, FOURTEENTH CENTURY

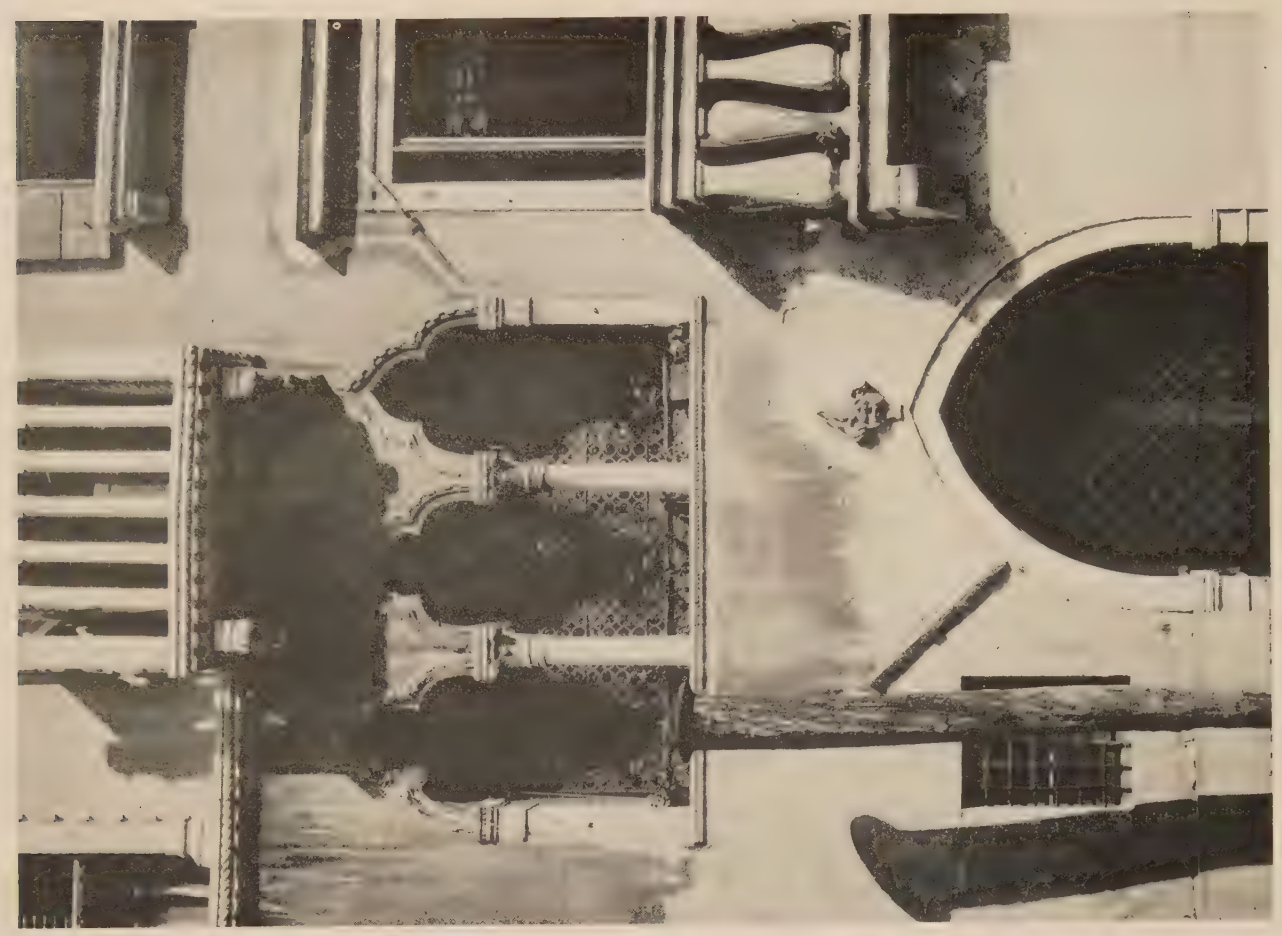


FOURTEENTH CENTURY BALCONY, HOUSE AT S. MARINA

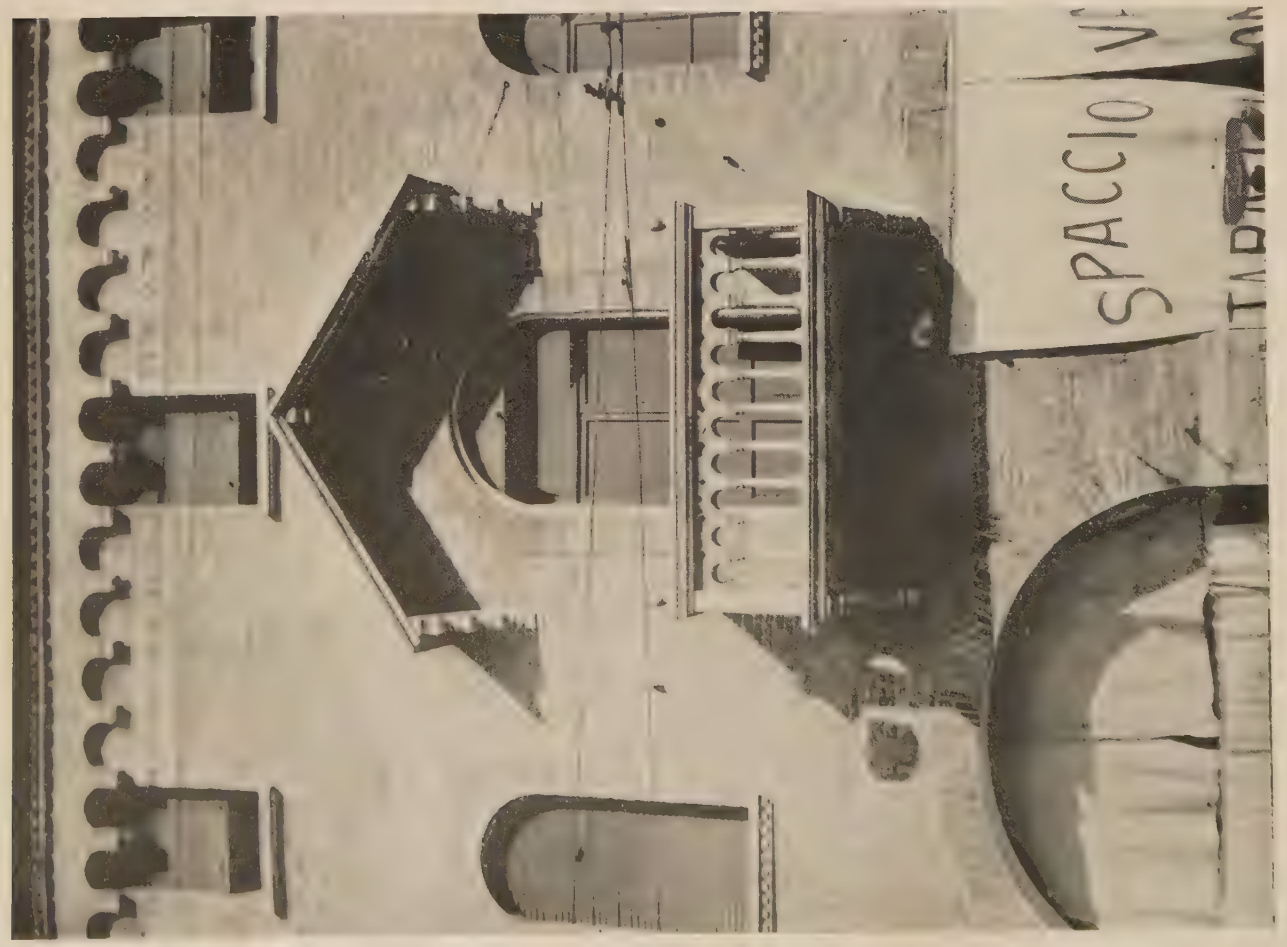


FOURTEENTH CENTURY BALCONY, CA D'ORO

BALCONY



A FACADE OF ASSORTED DETAILS

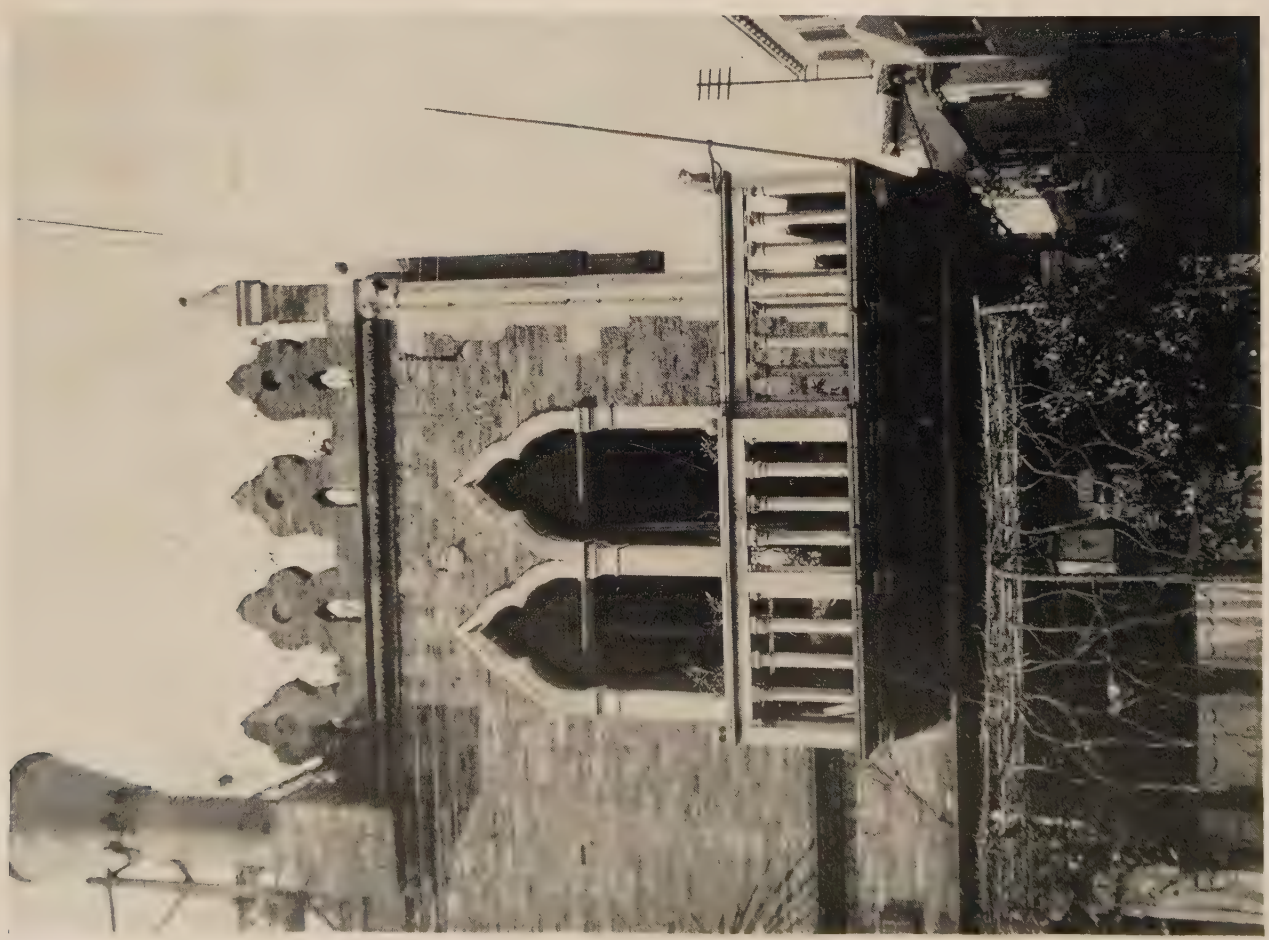


COLONETTE AND BALCONY, PADUA

STONE AND IRON BALCONIES

BALCONIES (RESTORED)

GOTHIC WINDOWS AND RENAISSANCE BALUSTERS



BALCONY OF A MODERN BUILDING IN THE GOTHIC STYLE

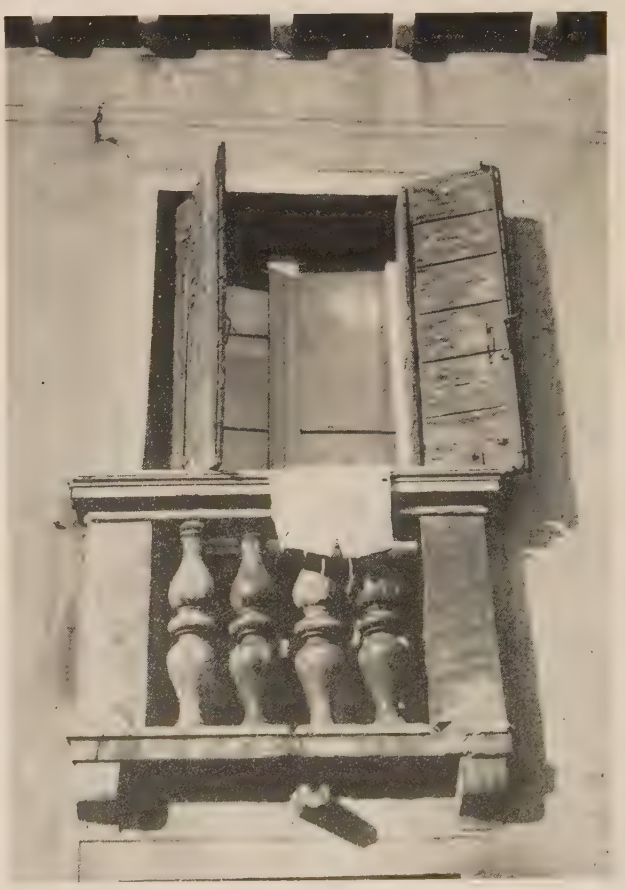
CAST IRON BALCONY FRONT, EARLY NINETEENTH CENTURY

MODERN BALCONY CHIOGGIA

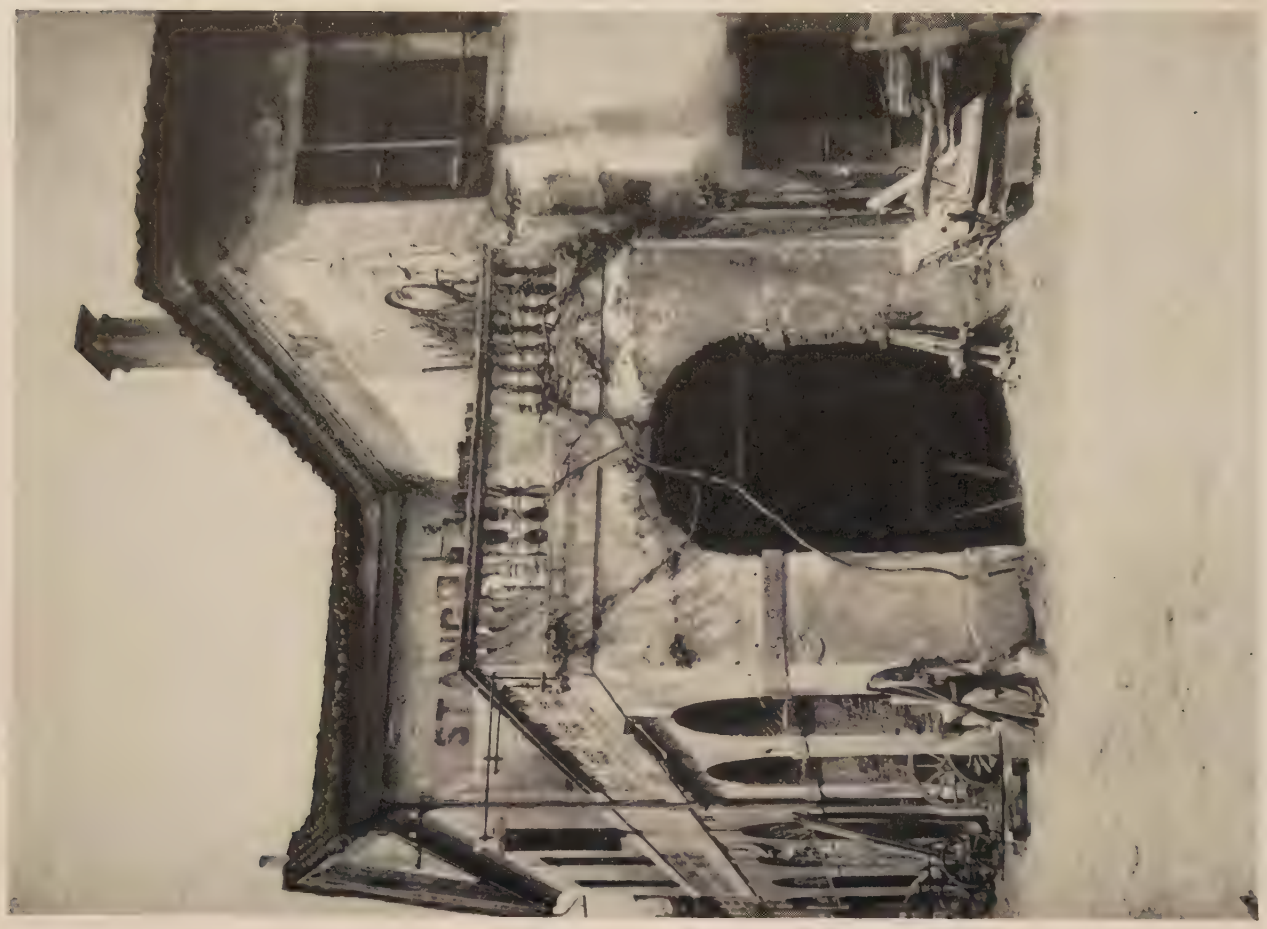
MARBLE BALCONIES

STONE BALCONIES, RENAISSANCE

THIRTEENTH CENTURY BALCONY,
PALAZZO DELLA RAGIONE, PADUA



STONE BALCONY, RENAISSANCE



RENAISSANCE ROOF BALCONIES

BAROQUE BALCONIES

BALCONIES

CORNICE DETAIL, MIRA

DECORATIVE WALL TREATMENT

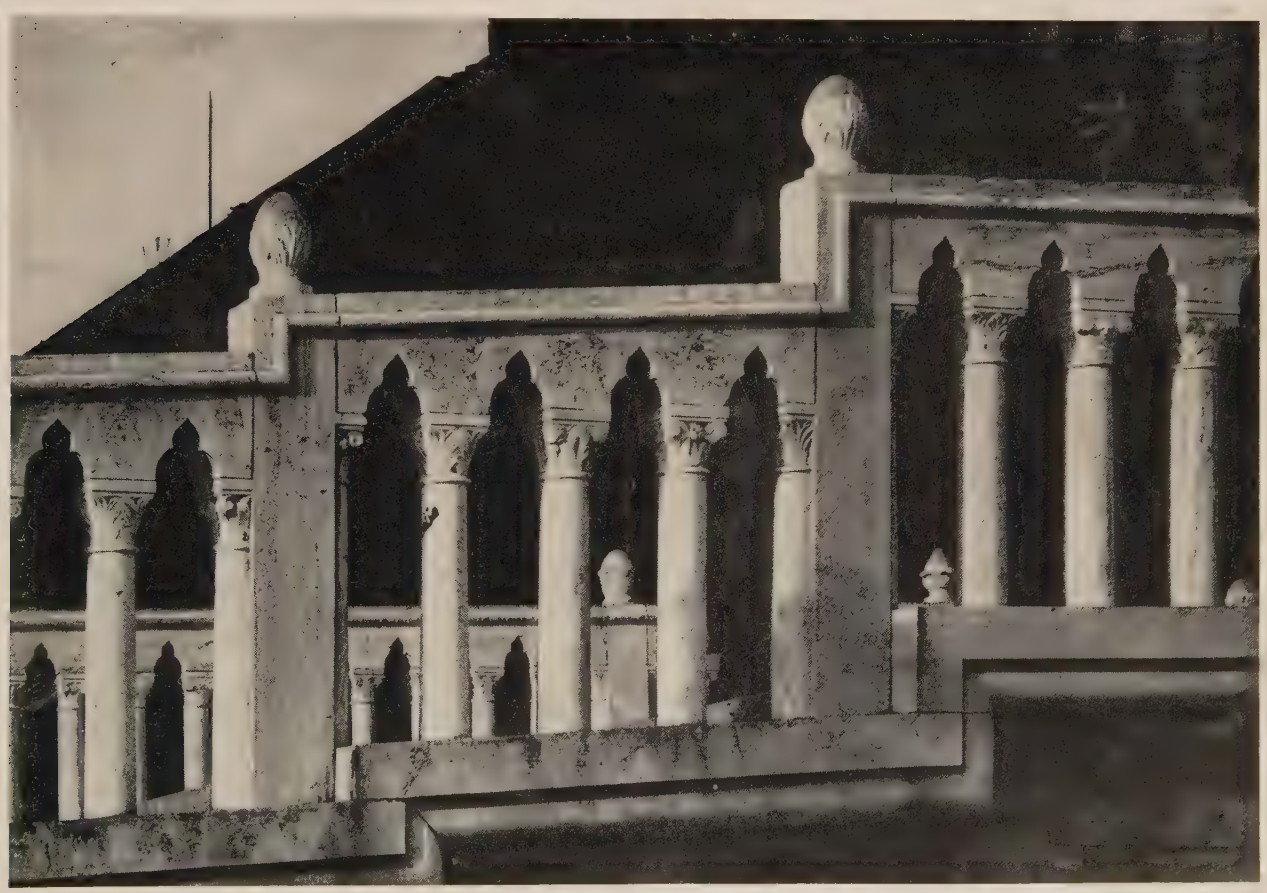
TYPICAL WALL CONSTRUCTION

TYPICAL VENETIAN BRICKWORK

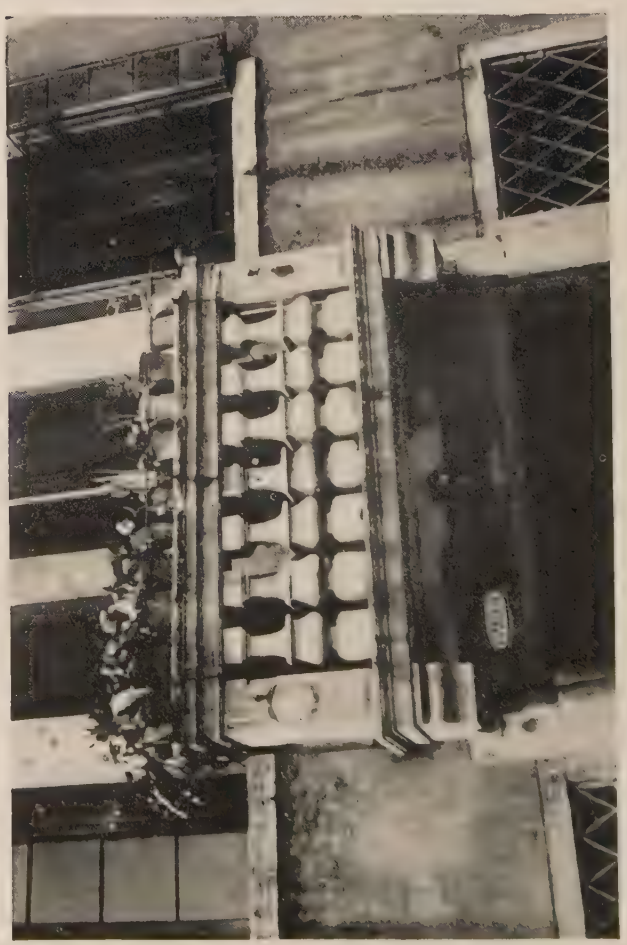
LATE GOTHIC BALUSTRADES

COLONETTE BALUSTERS

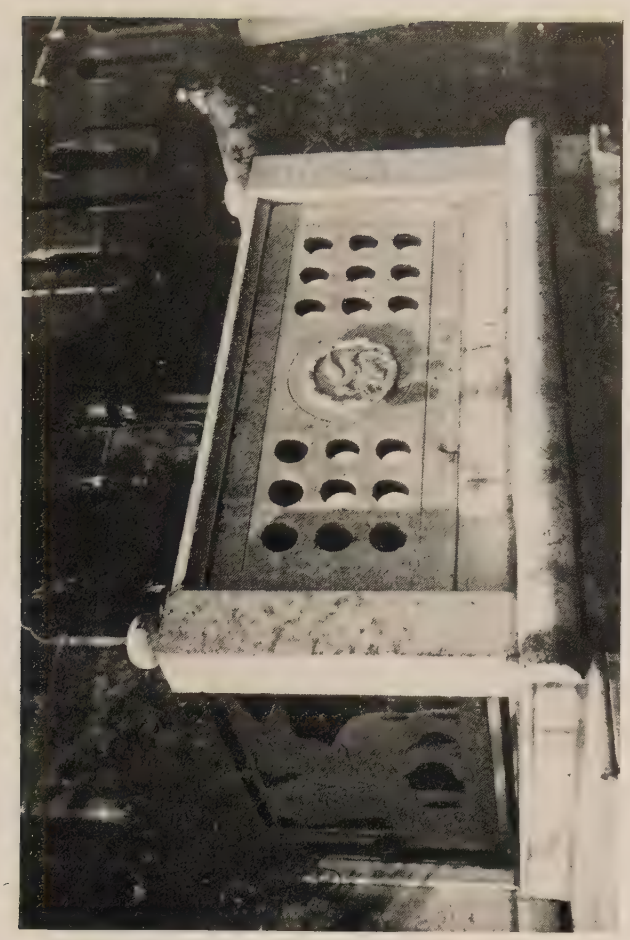
FIFTEENTH CENTURY BALUSTRADE, UDINE

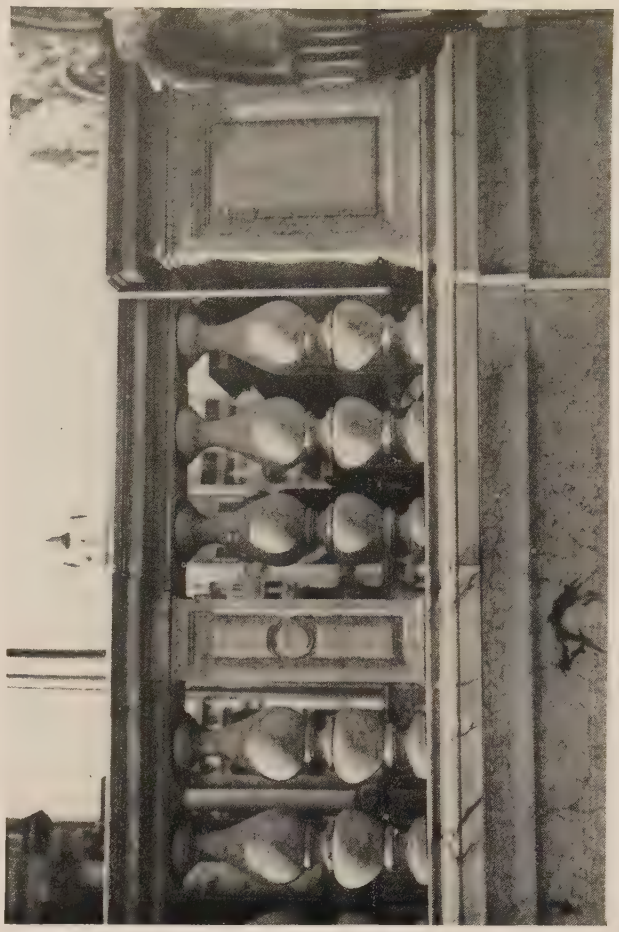


LATE GOTHIC BALUSTRADE



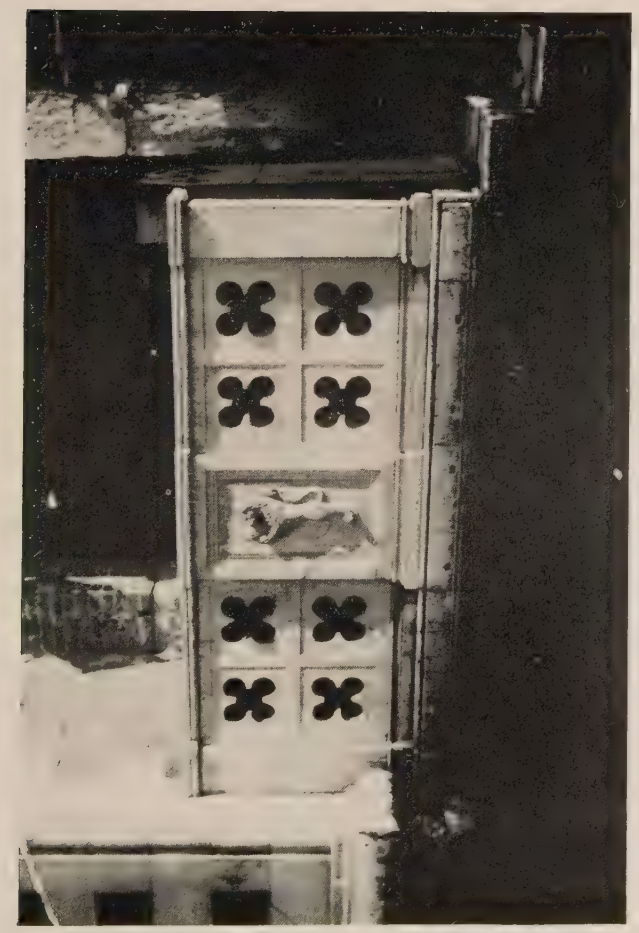
RENAISSANCE BALUSTERS



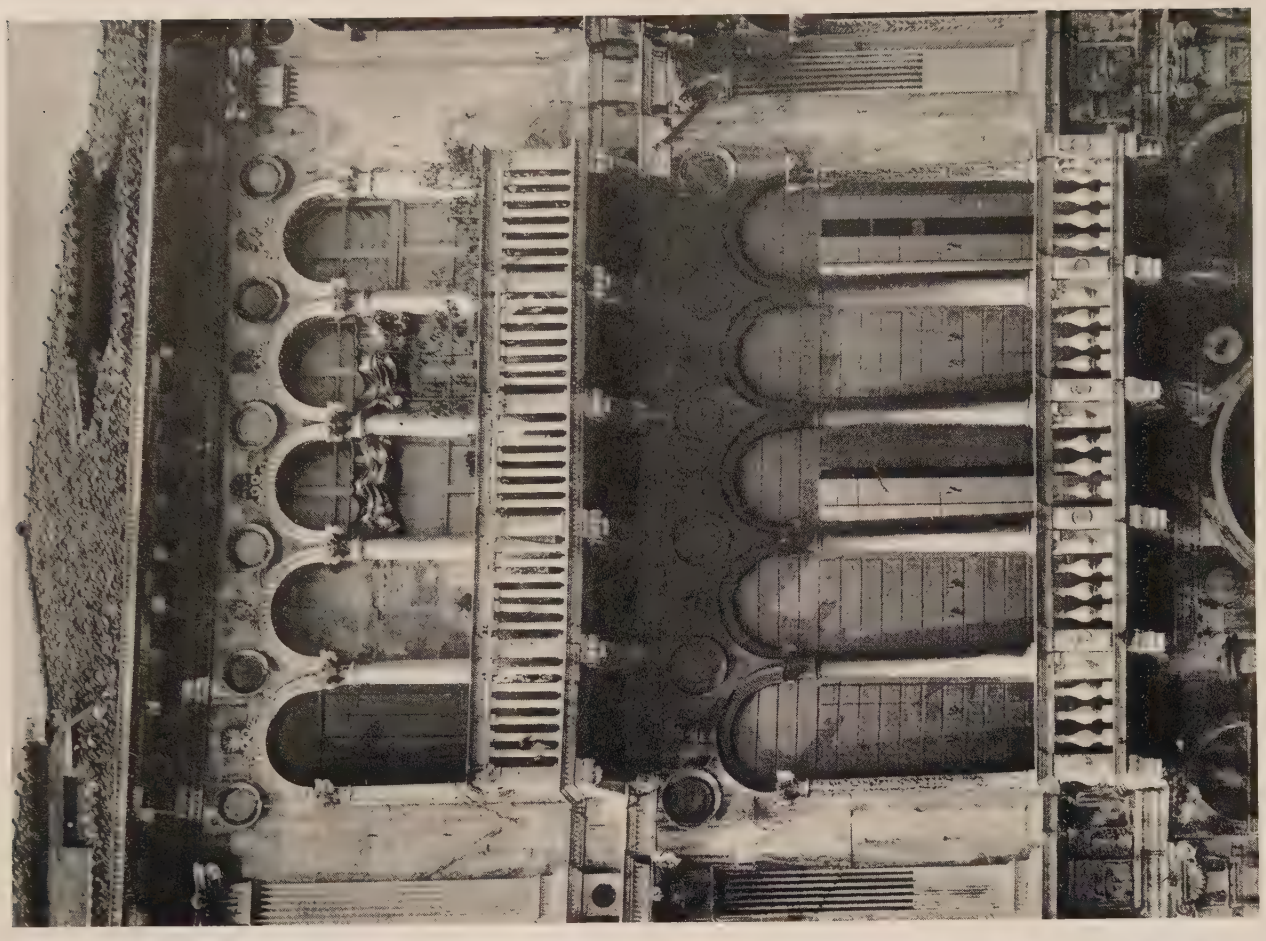


BALUSTRADE OF THE SANSAVINO LOGGIA

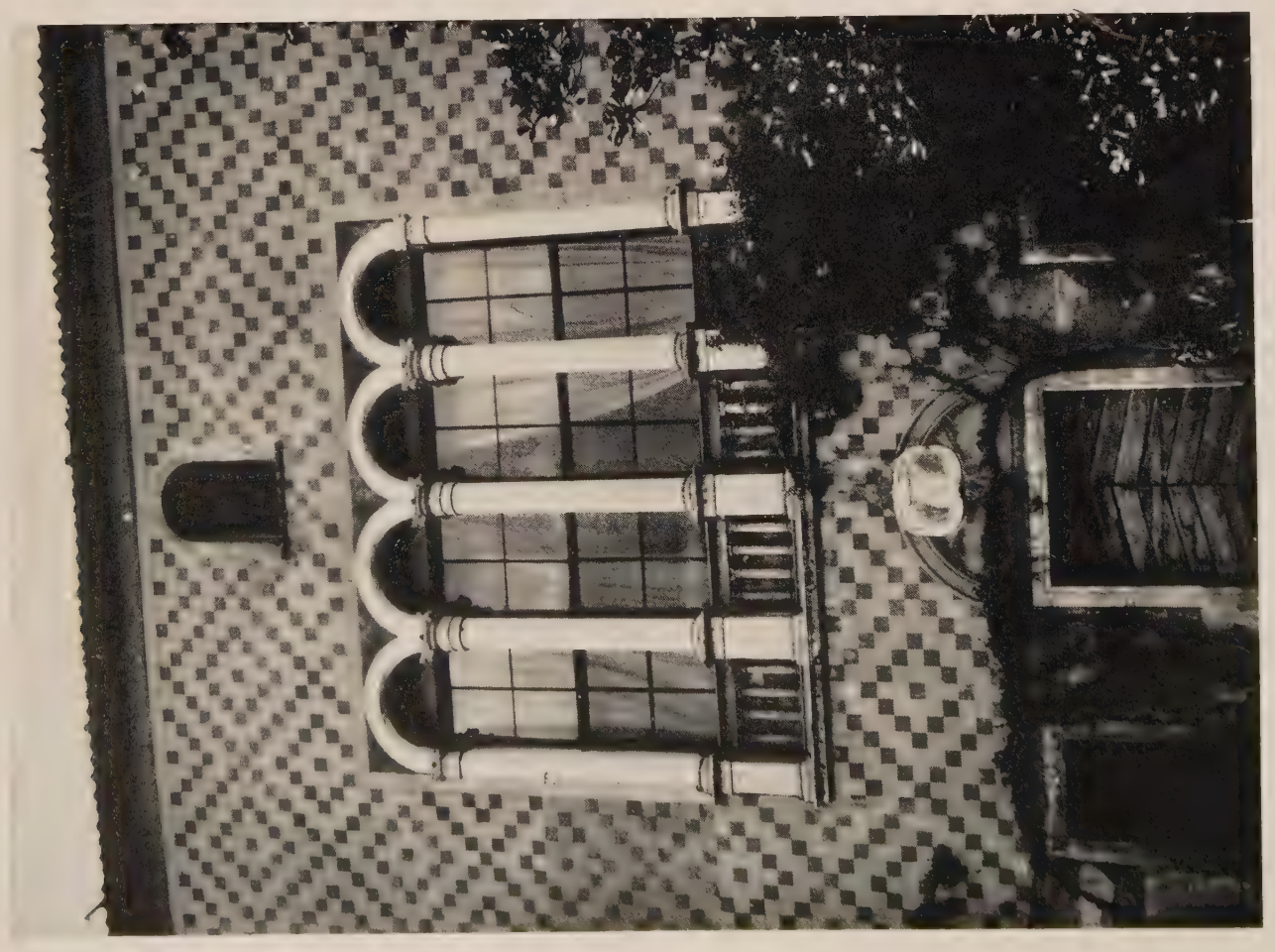
MARBLE GRILLES, MODERN REPRODUCTIONS



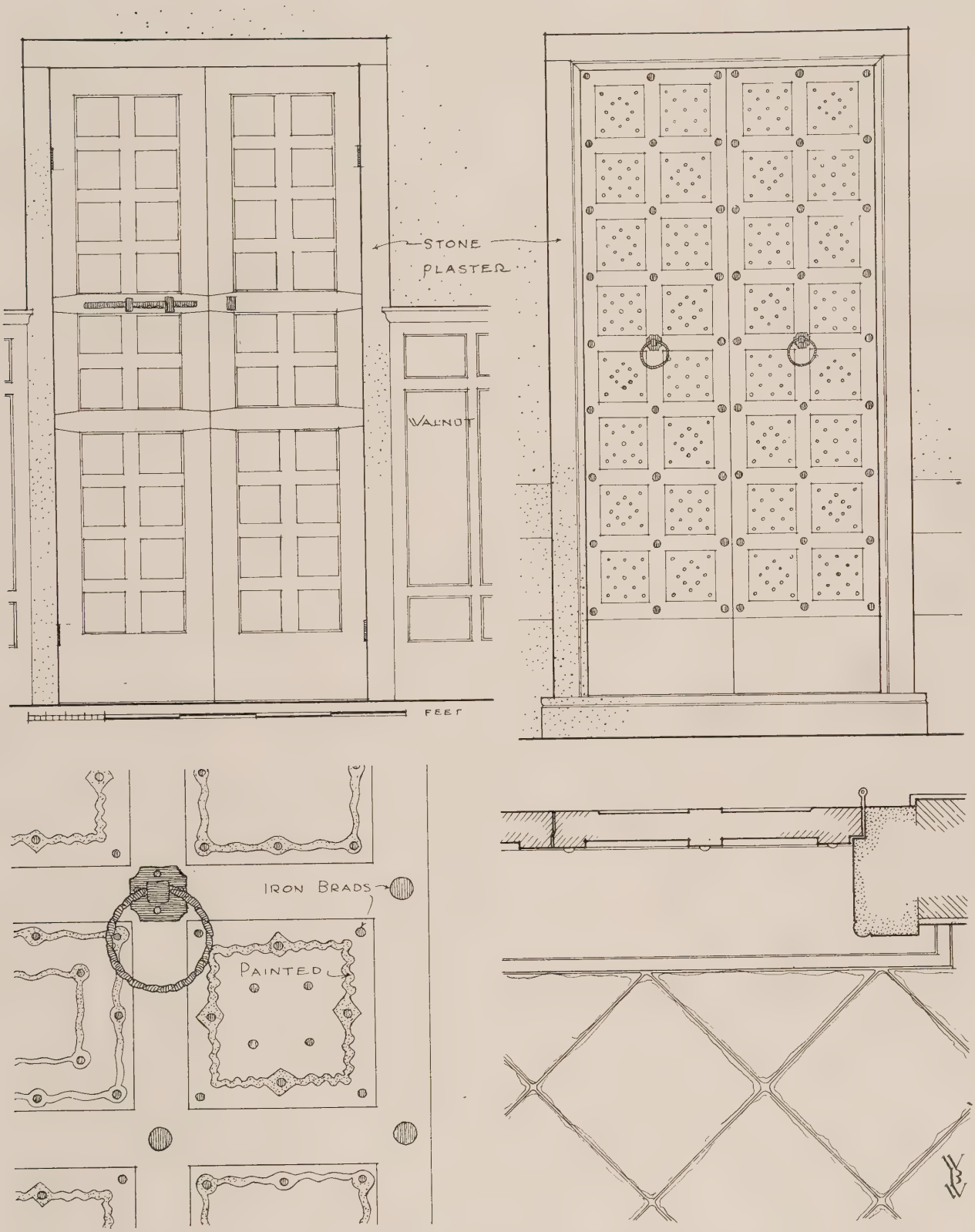
RENAISSANCE BALUSTRADE



RENAISSANCE ARCHED WINDOWS, PALAZZO MONTECUCCOLI



ARCHED WINDOW GROUP, NEAR VICENZA



A DOOR IN THE ABBEY S. GREGGOIRE

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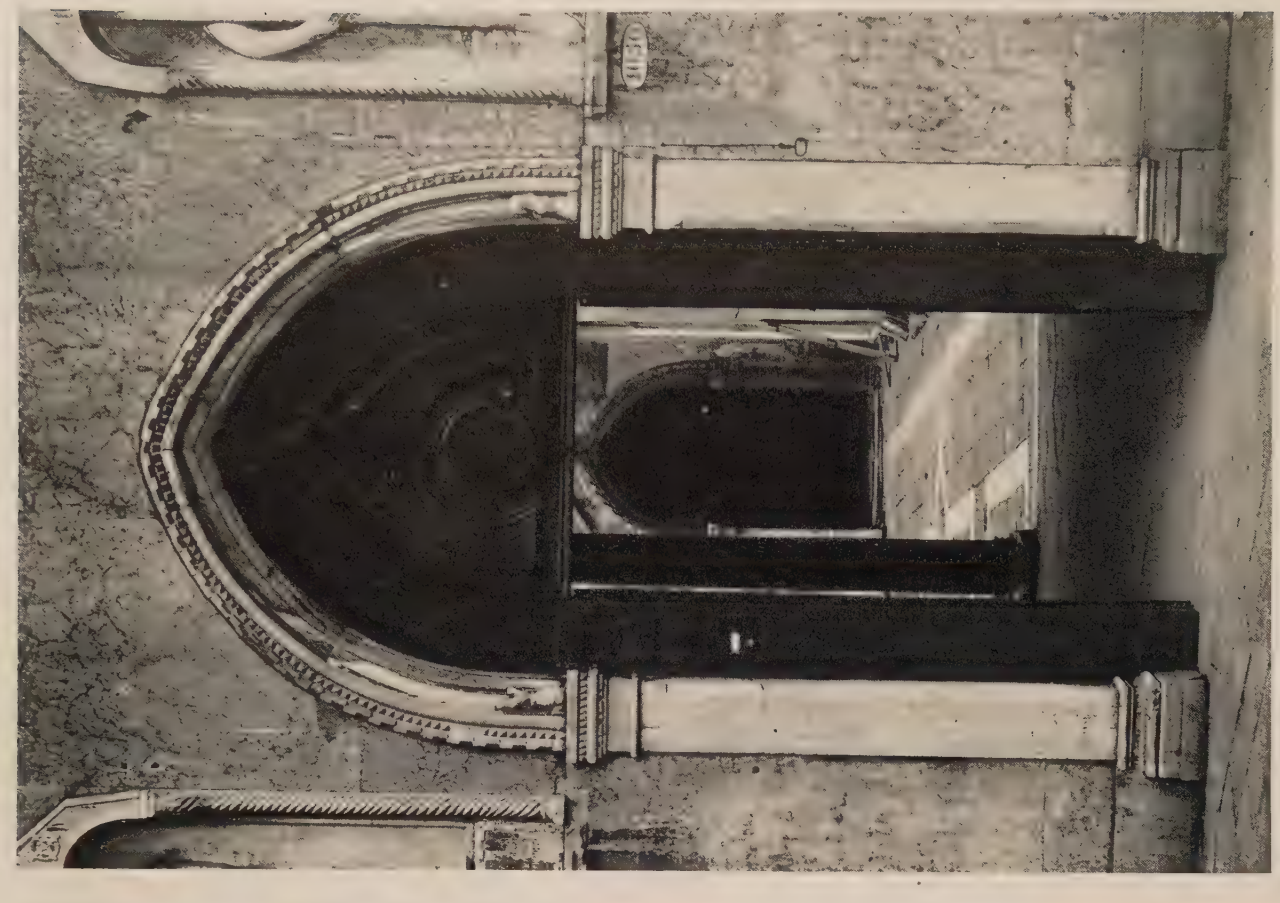
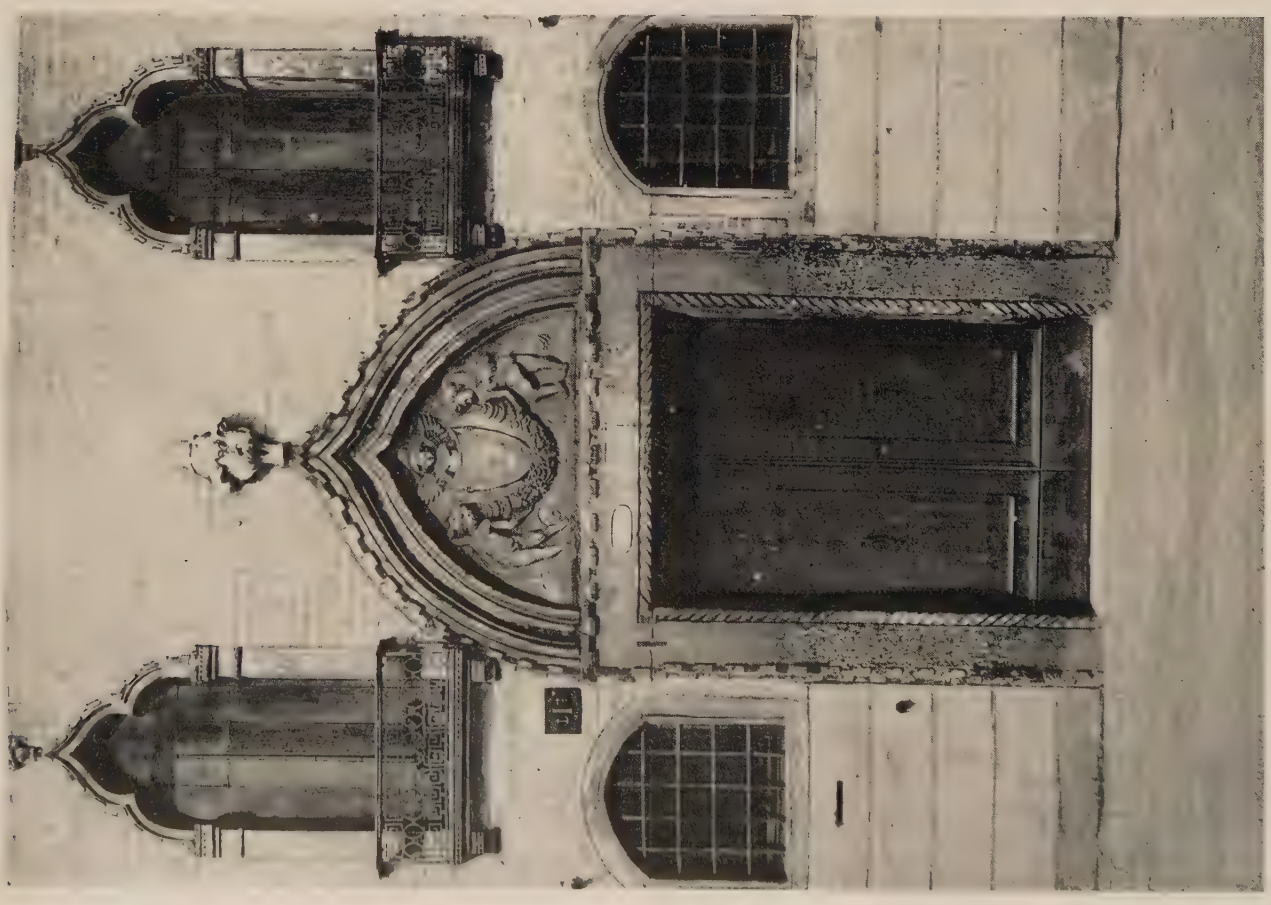
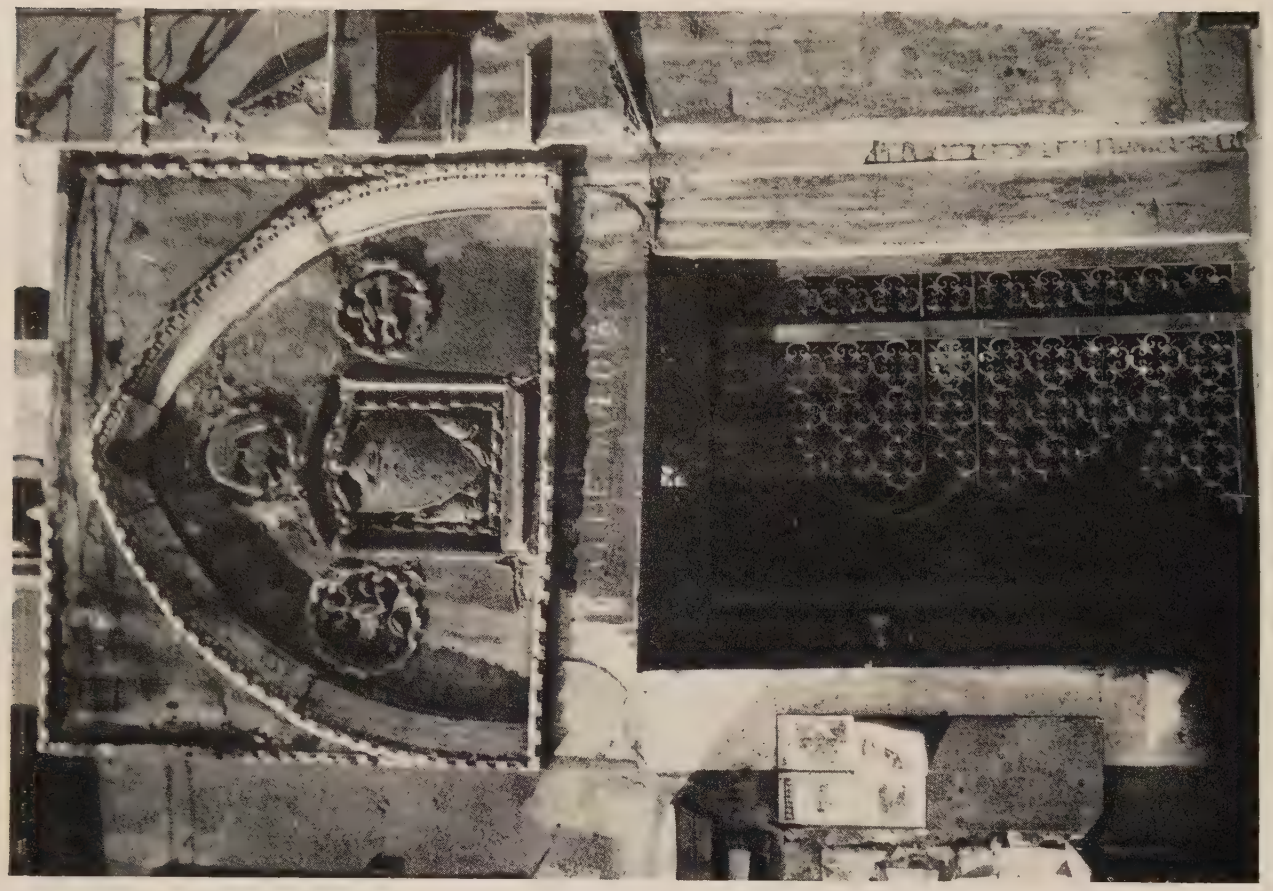


GOTHIC DOORWAY, SCUOLO DELLA CARITA

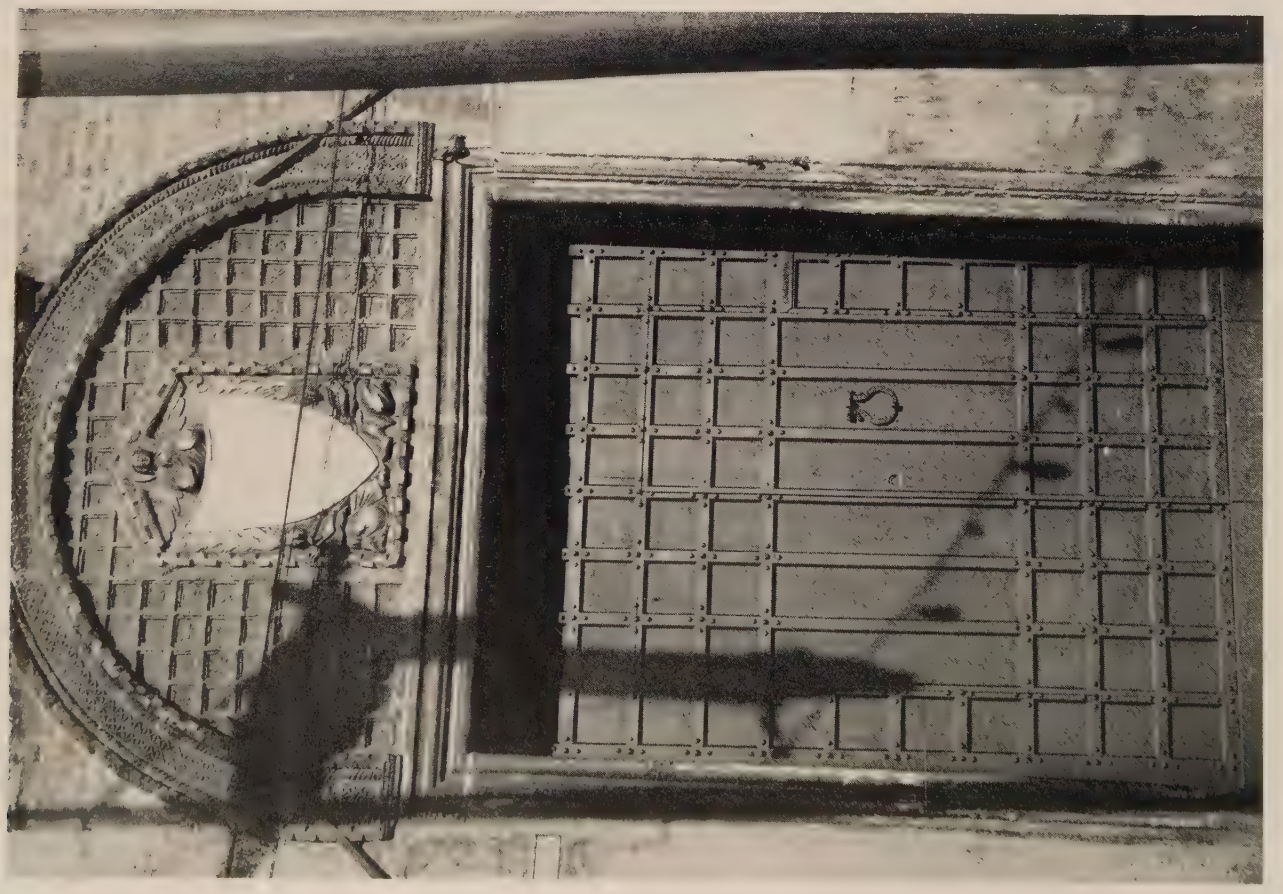


GOTHIC DOORWAY, CAMPO S. MARIA FORMOSA

FOURTEENTH CENTURY DOORWAY



EARLY GOTHIC DOORWAY



ROMANESQUE DOORWAY

GOTHIC DOOR DETAIL, BURANO

GOTHIC DOOR DETAIL, TREVISO

FOURTEENTH CENTURY DOORWAYS

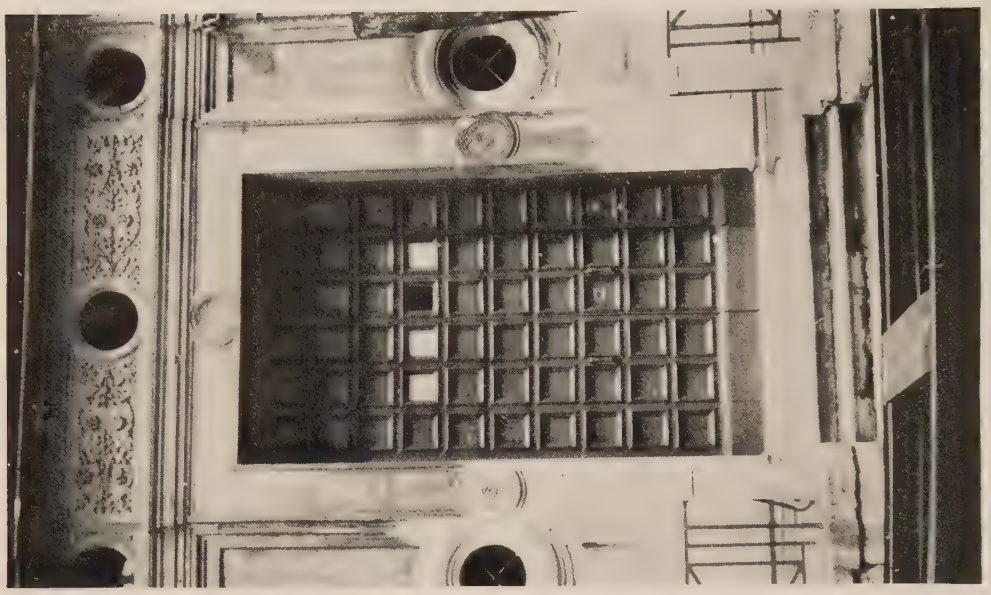
RENAISSANCE DOORWAY

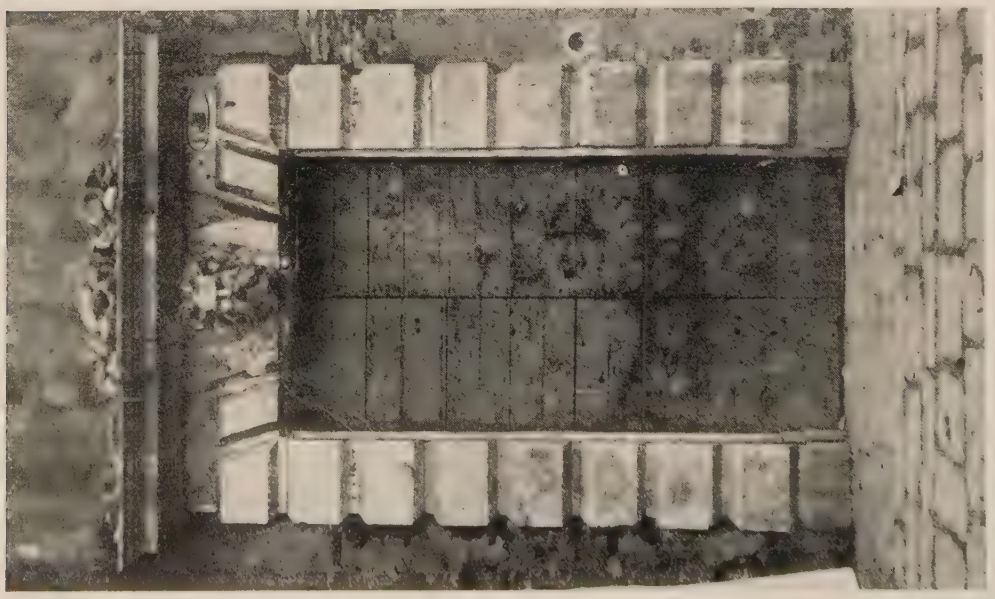
RENAISSANCE DOORWAY

RENAISSANCE DOORWAY, VILLA CHAPEL NEAR STRA

GOTHIC DOORS

RENAISSANCE ARCH DOORWAYS





RENAISSANCE DOORWAYS

RENAISSANCE DOORWAYS

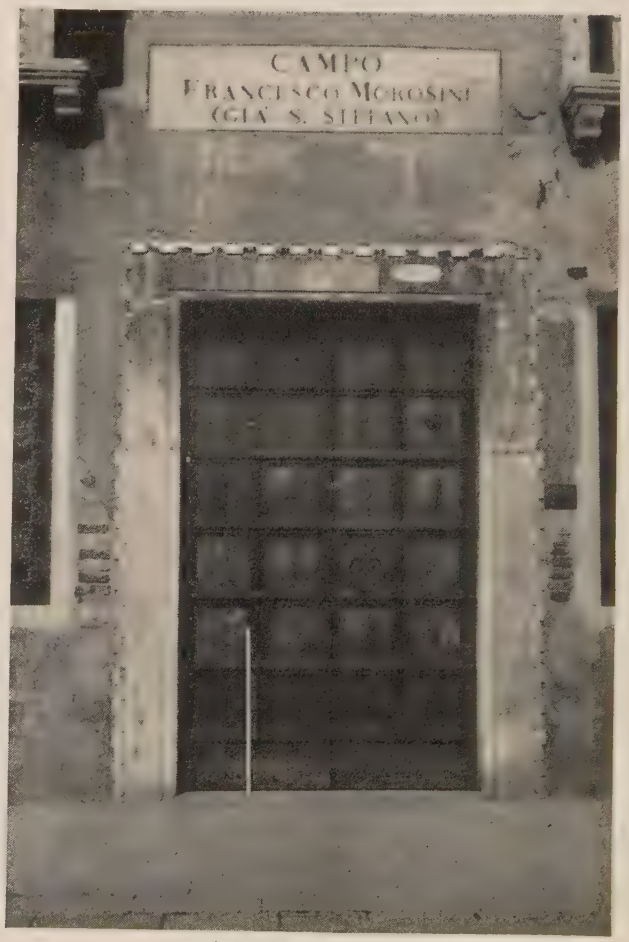
ARCH AND CORNICE DOORWAYS

SEVENTEENTH CENTURY DOORWAY IN FORMER CLOISTER OF S. ZACCARIA

ARCH AND CORNICE DOORWAY

ORNAMENTED RENAISSANCE DOORWAYS

ORNAMENTED RENAISSANCE DOORWAY



GOTHIC DOOR

RENAISSANCE DOORS

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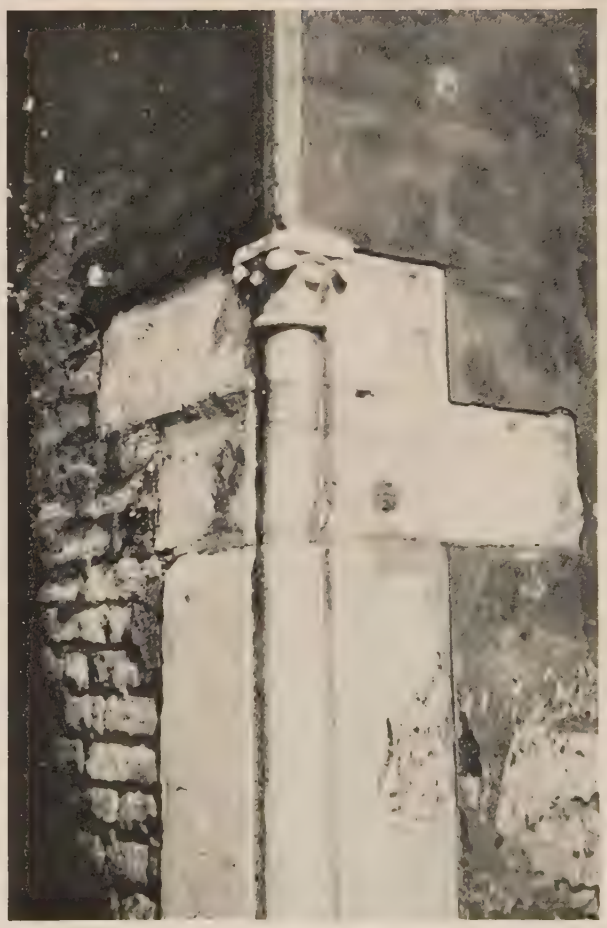
GARDEN DETAILS, VILLA PISANI, STRA

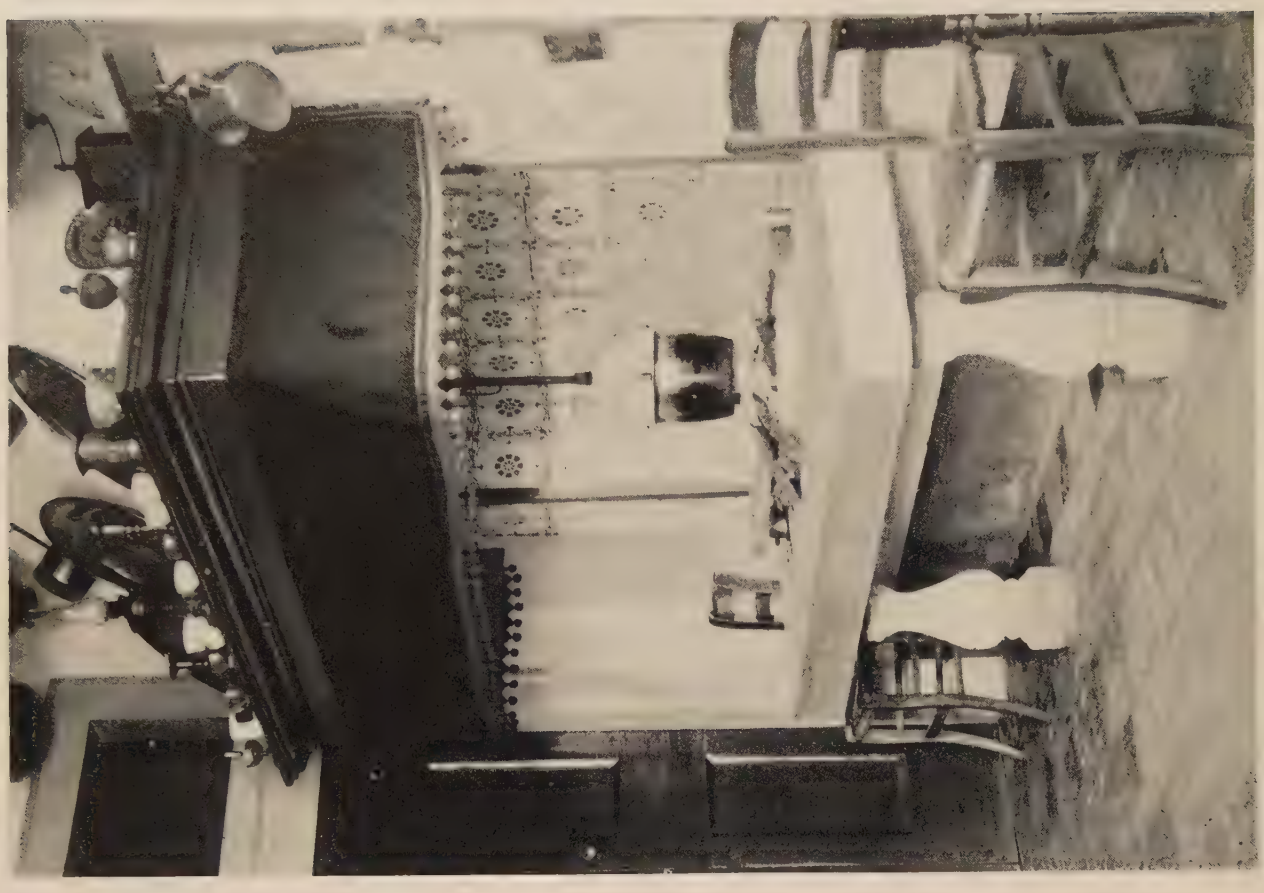
POSTS AND ORNAMENTS

LANDING LAMPS

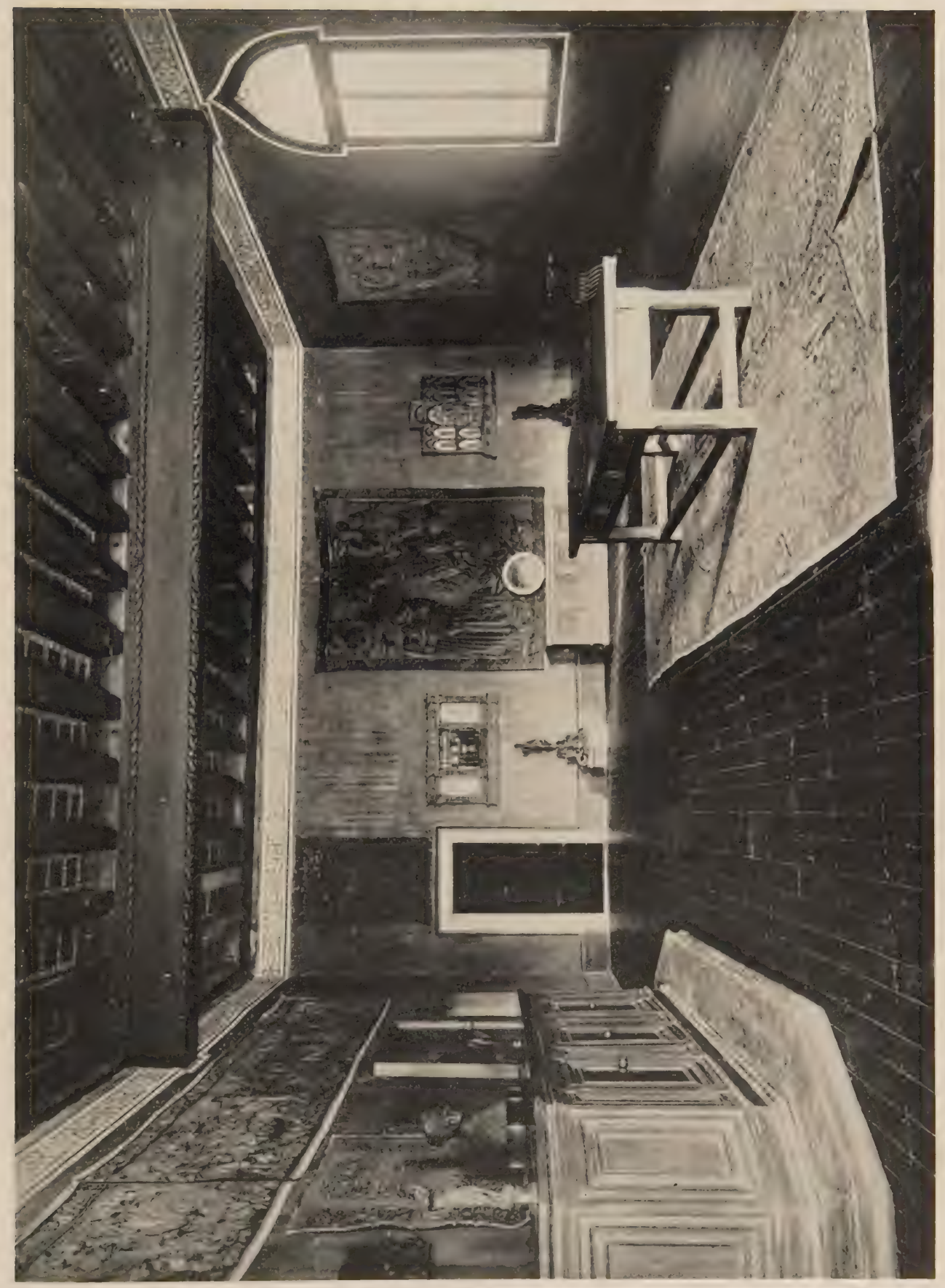
WALL SHRINES



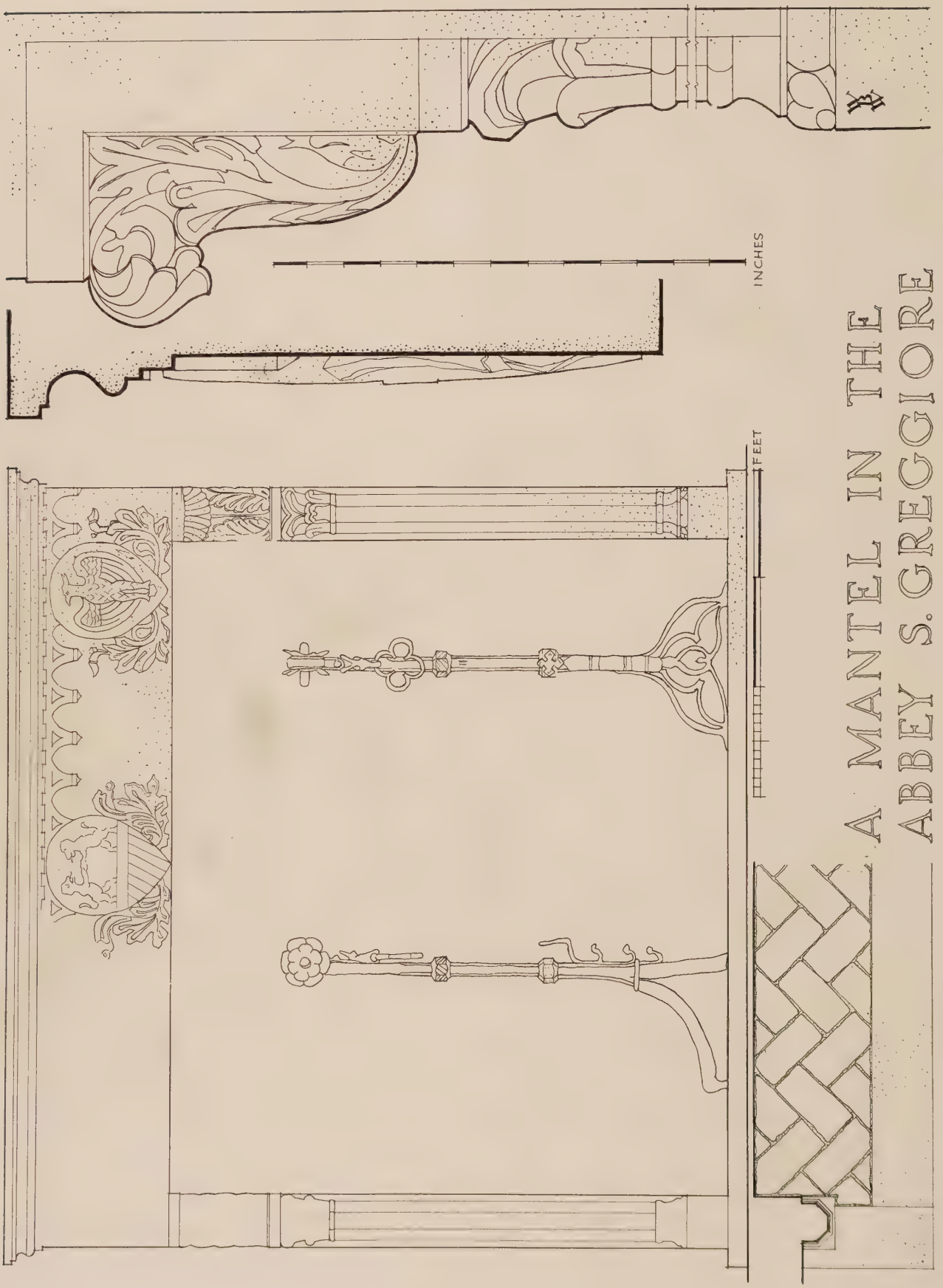
CORNER DETAILS



KITCHENS, BURANO



A ROOM IN THE CA D'ORO



A MANTEL IN THE ABBEY S. GREGIORE

BEAM CEILINGS

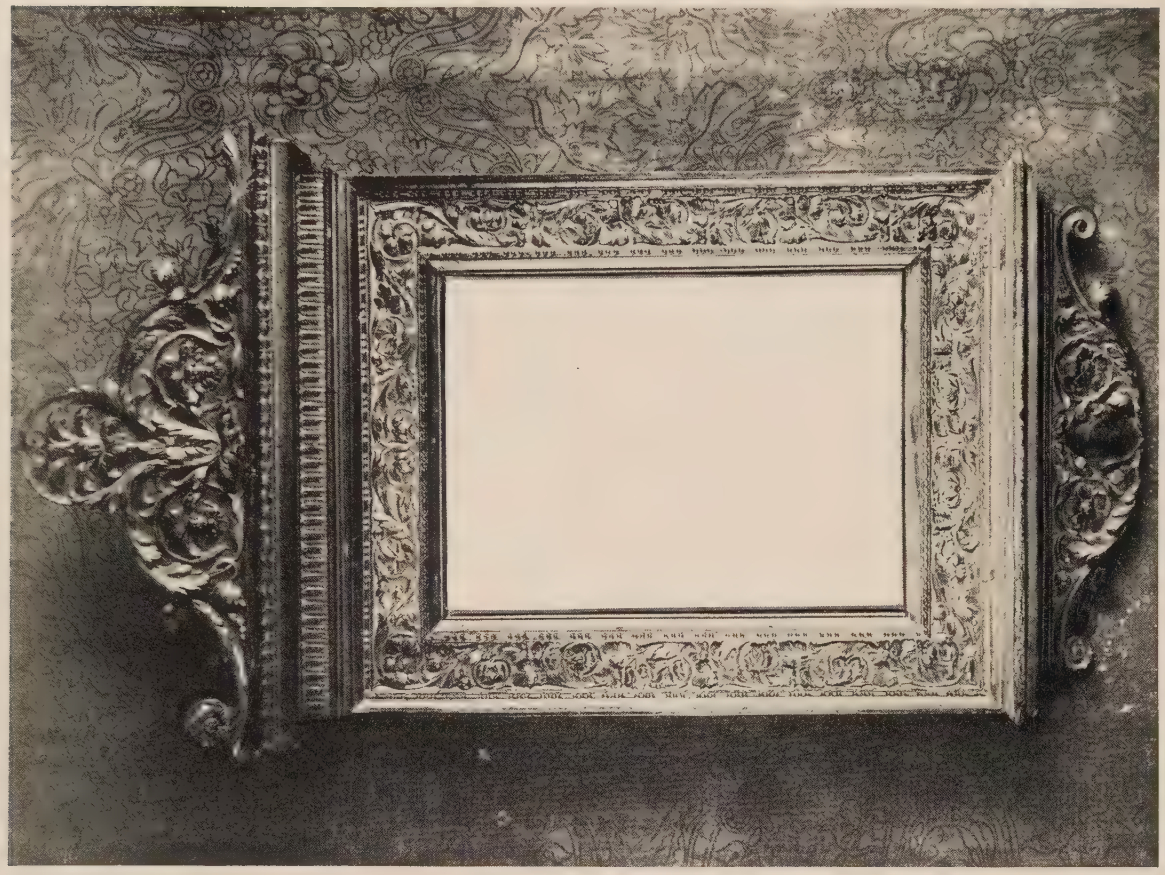
WOOD BEAM CEILING, DOGES' PALACE

RENAISSANCE CEILINGS

RENAISSANCE CEILINGS

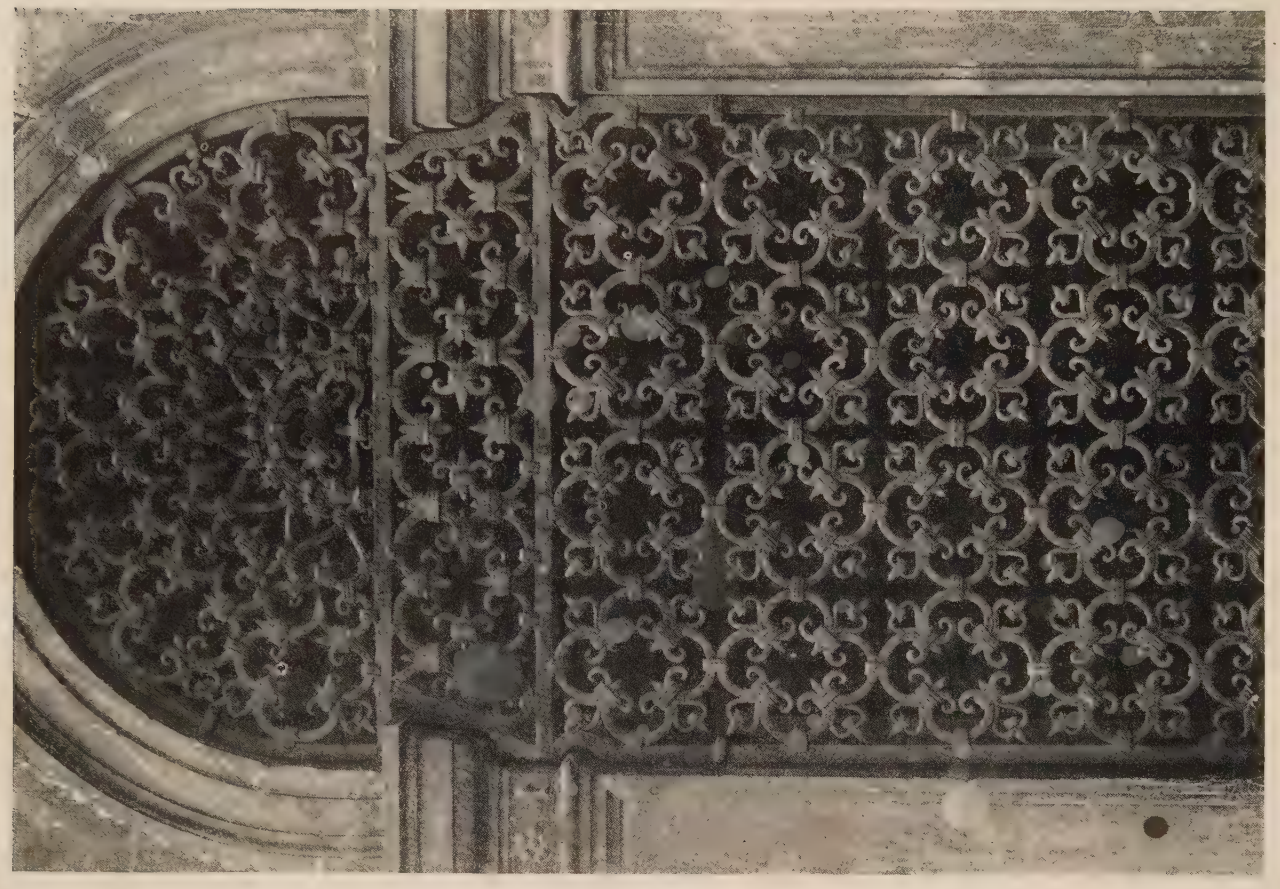
CEILING, CA D'ORO

CEILING, CA D'ORO



RENAISSANCE FRAMES

WROUGHT IRON DETAIL



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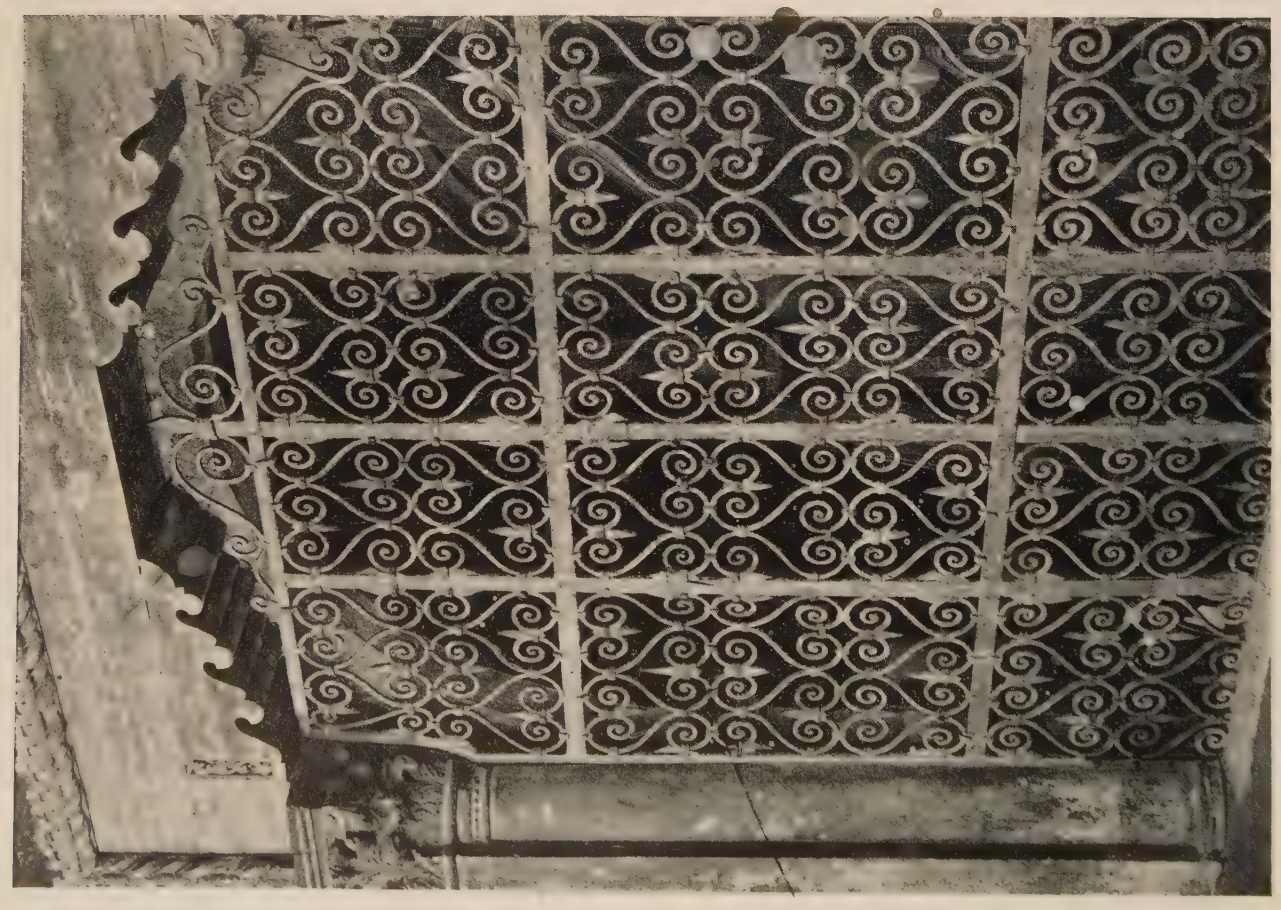
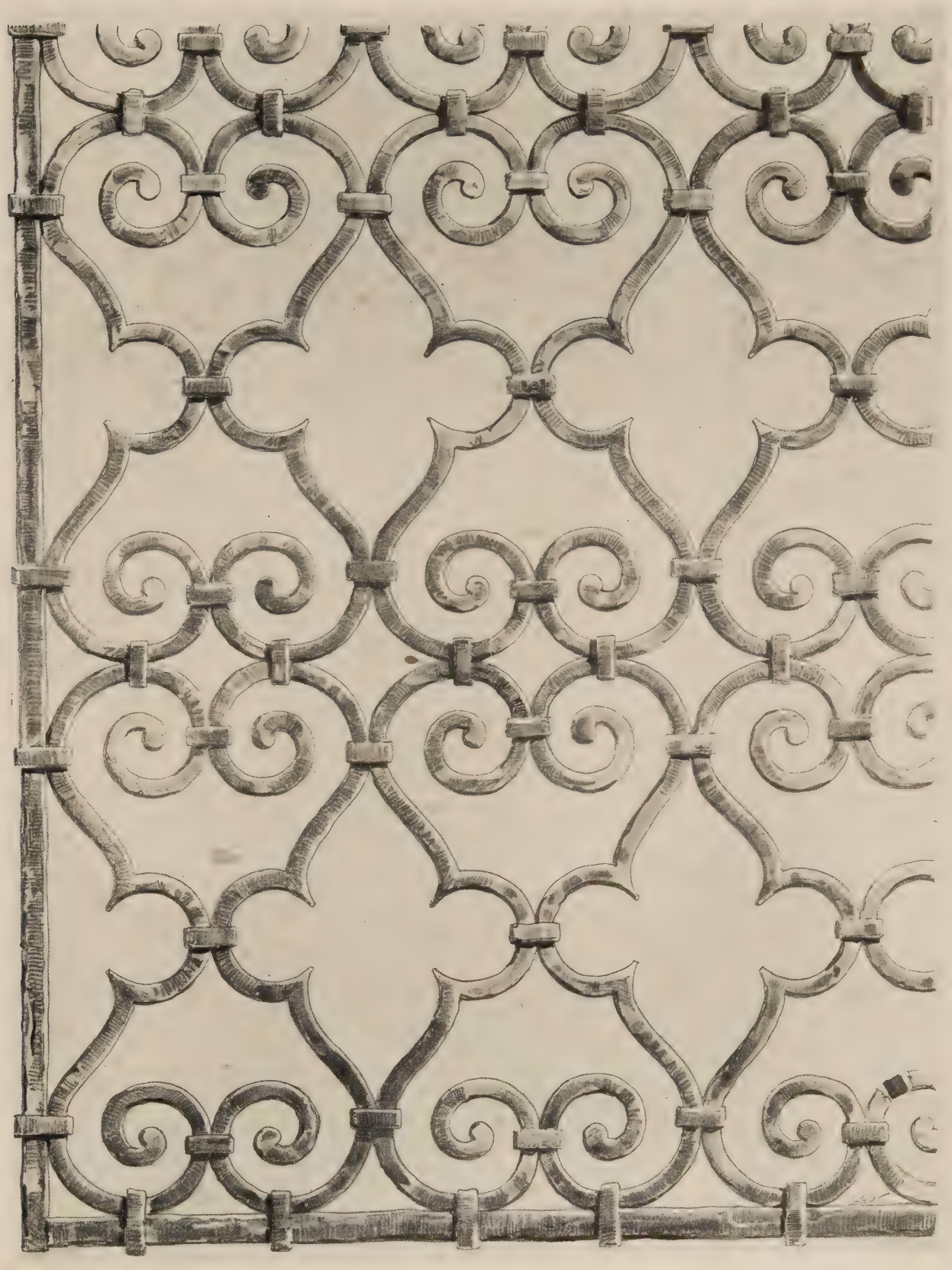


WROUGHT IRON GATE, DOGES' PALACE



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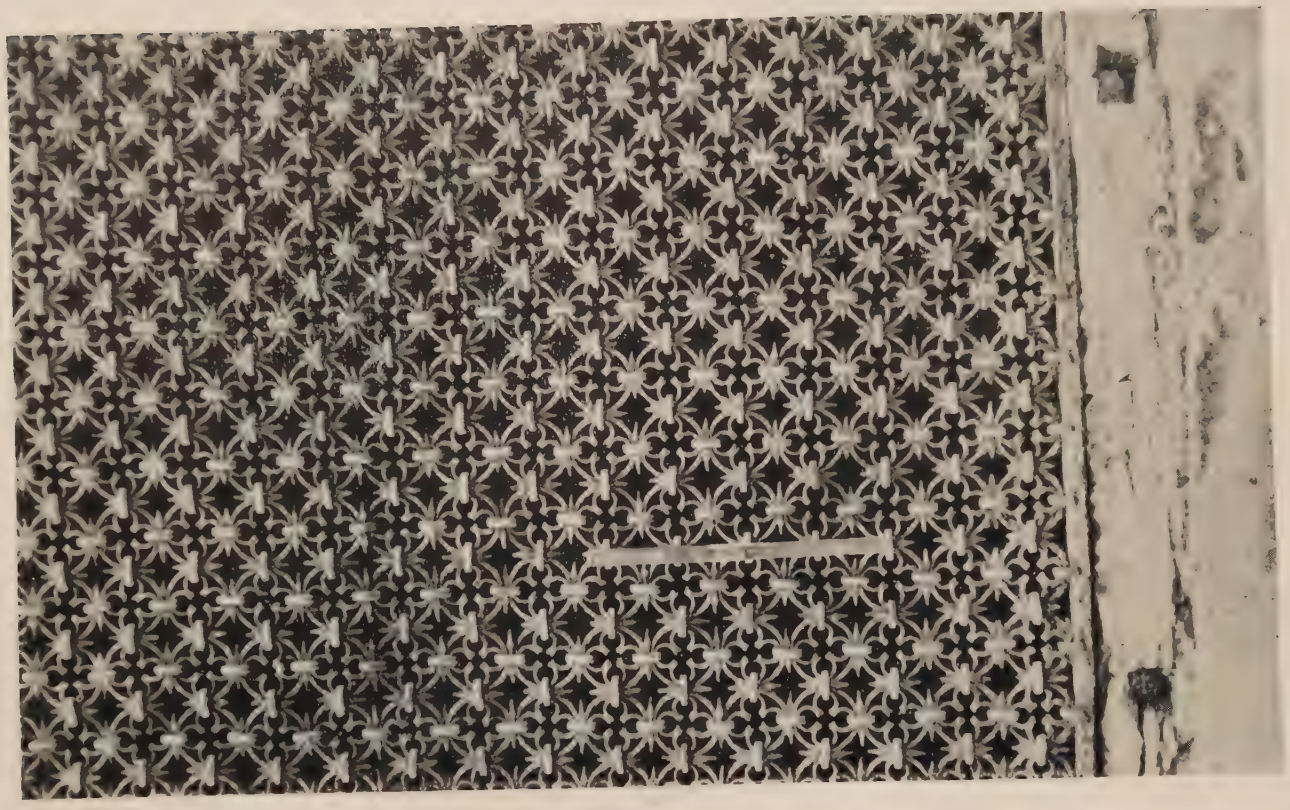

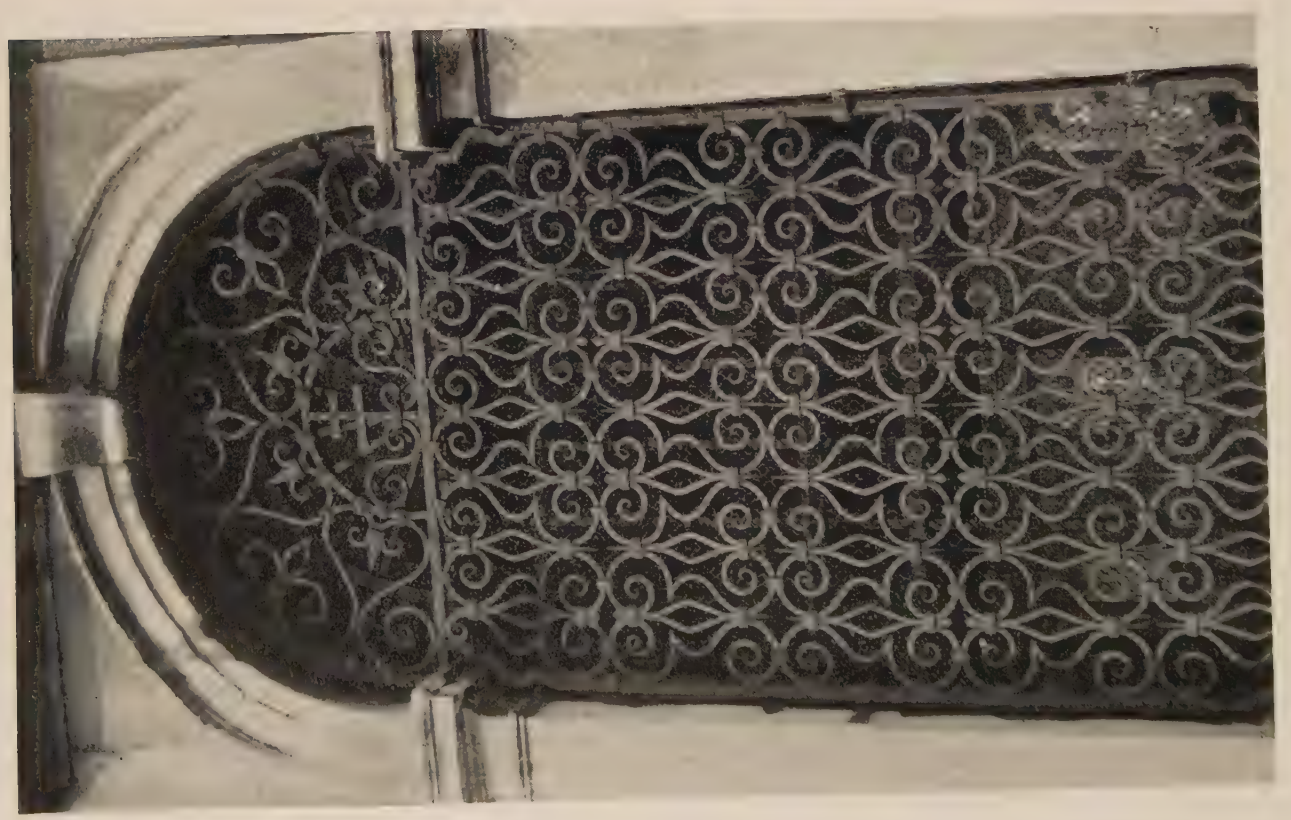

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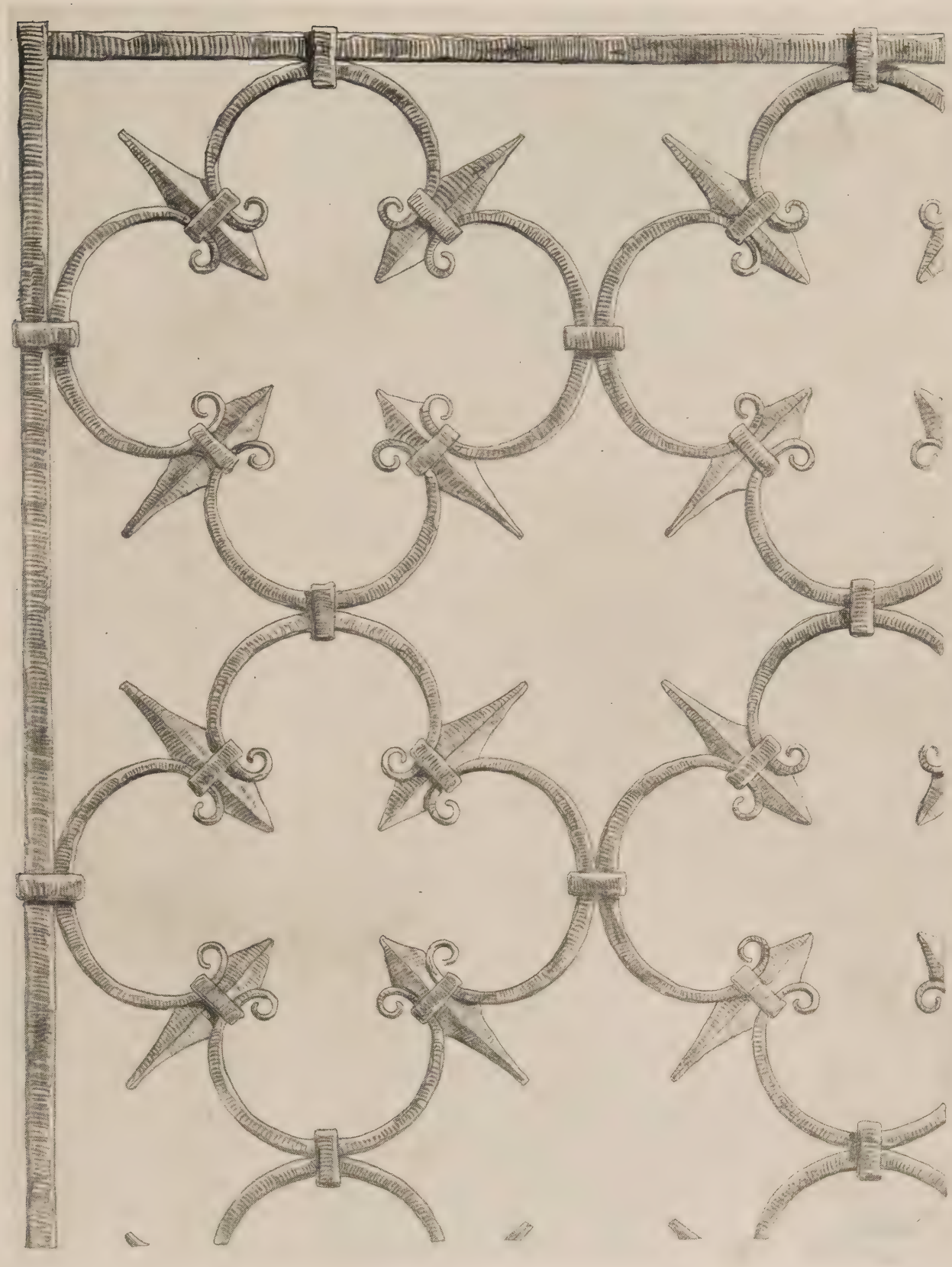

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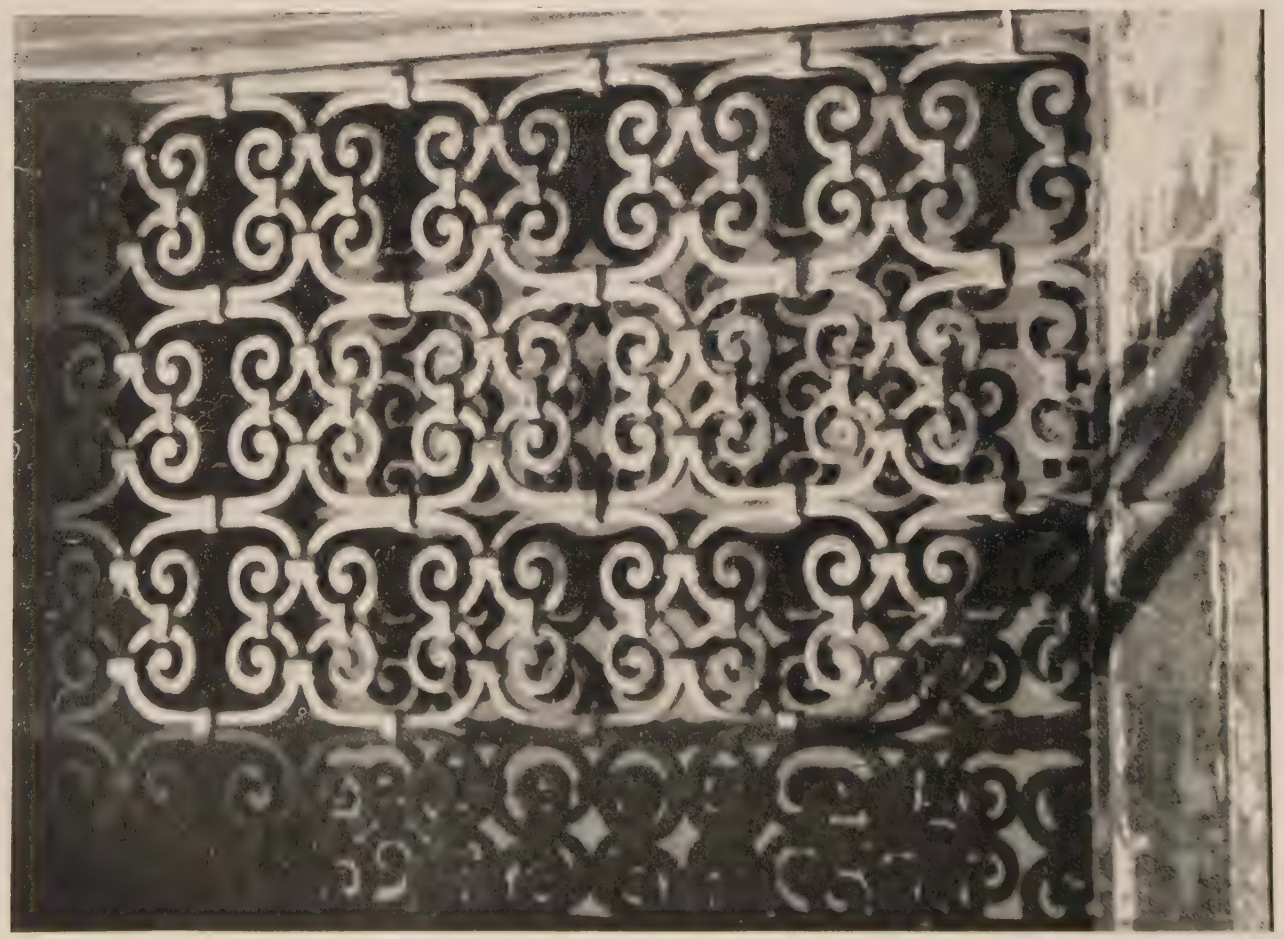

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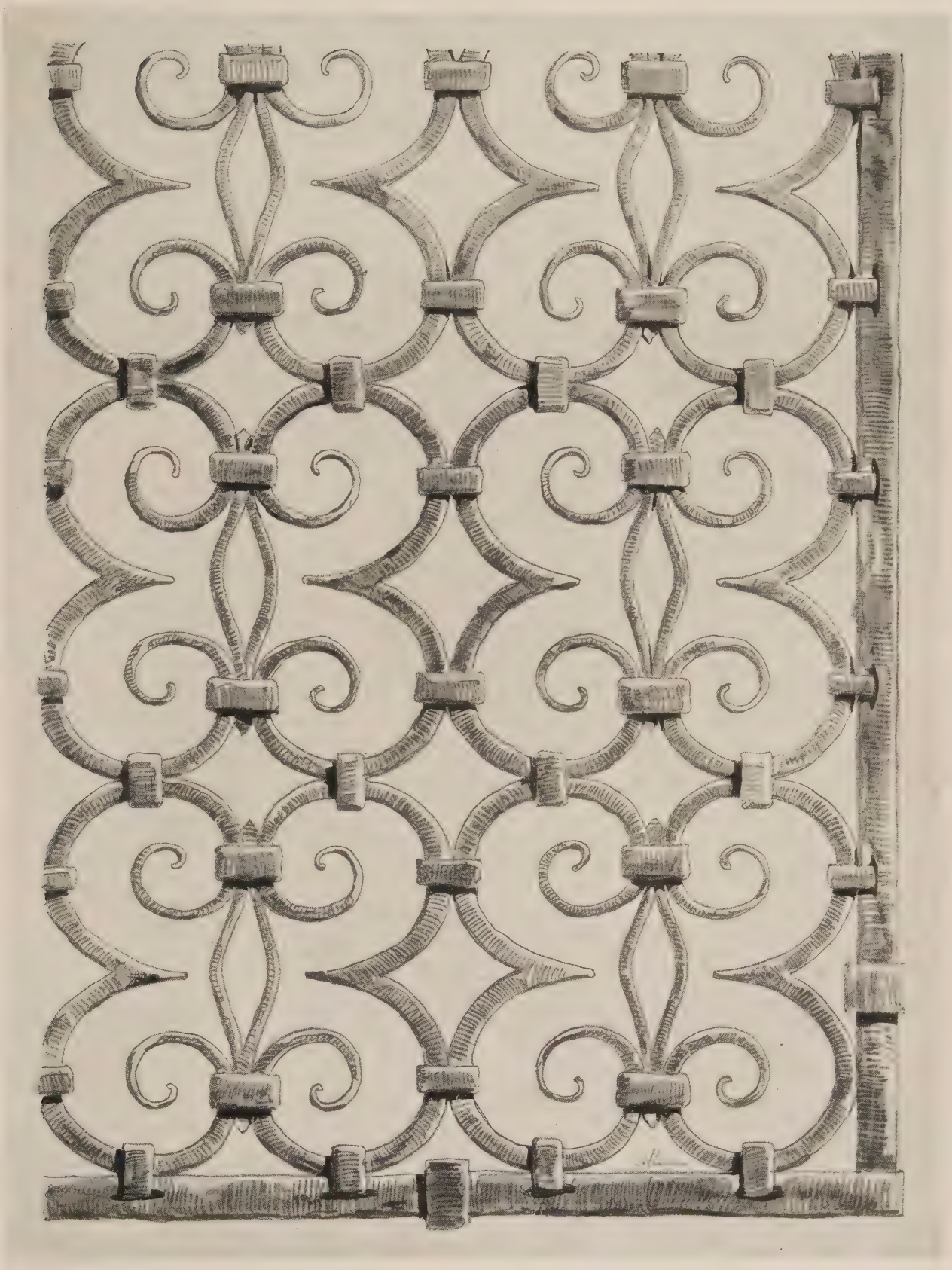
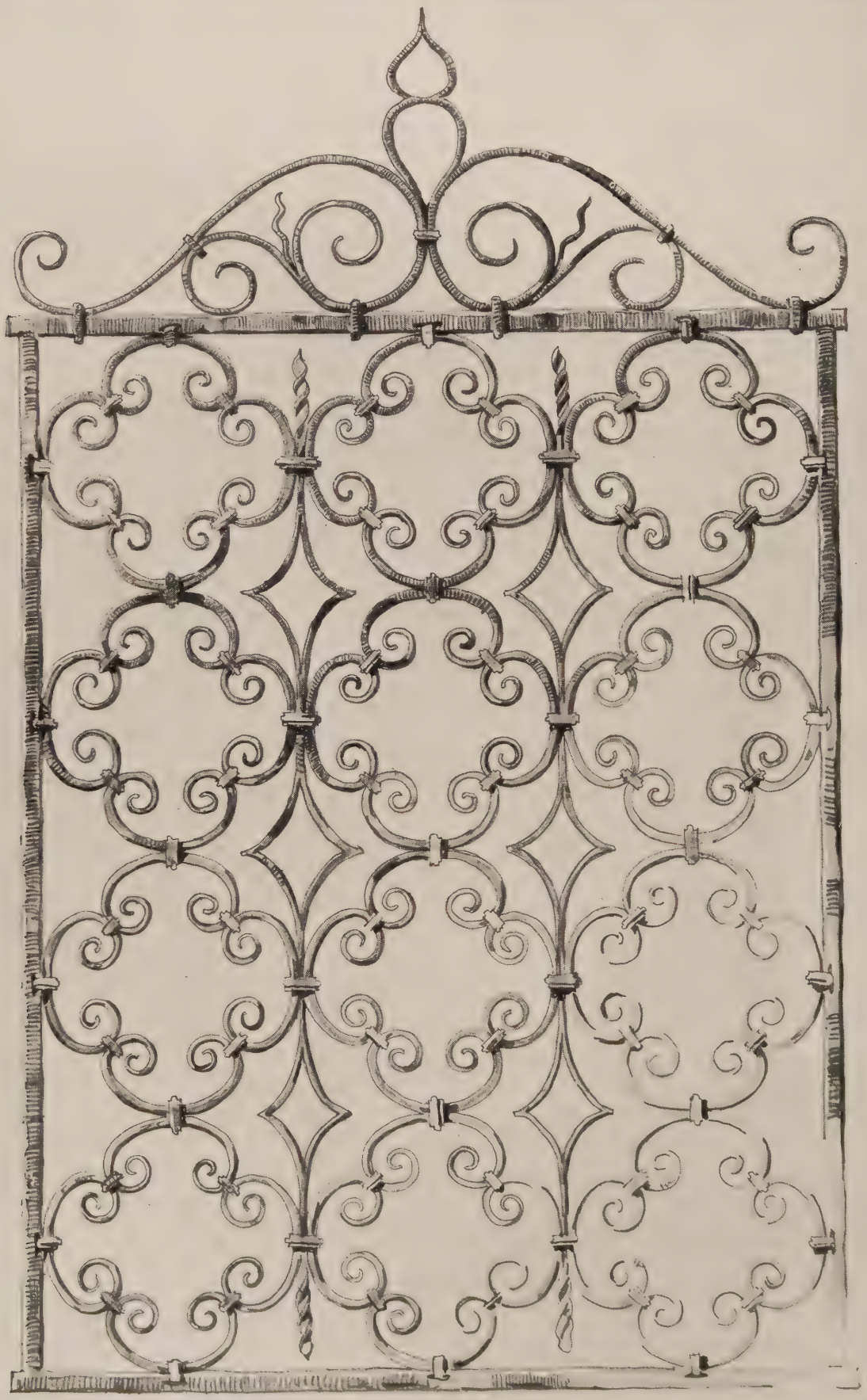


WROUGHT IRON DETAIL

WROUGHT IRON GRILLES

WROUGHT IRON DETAIL



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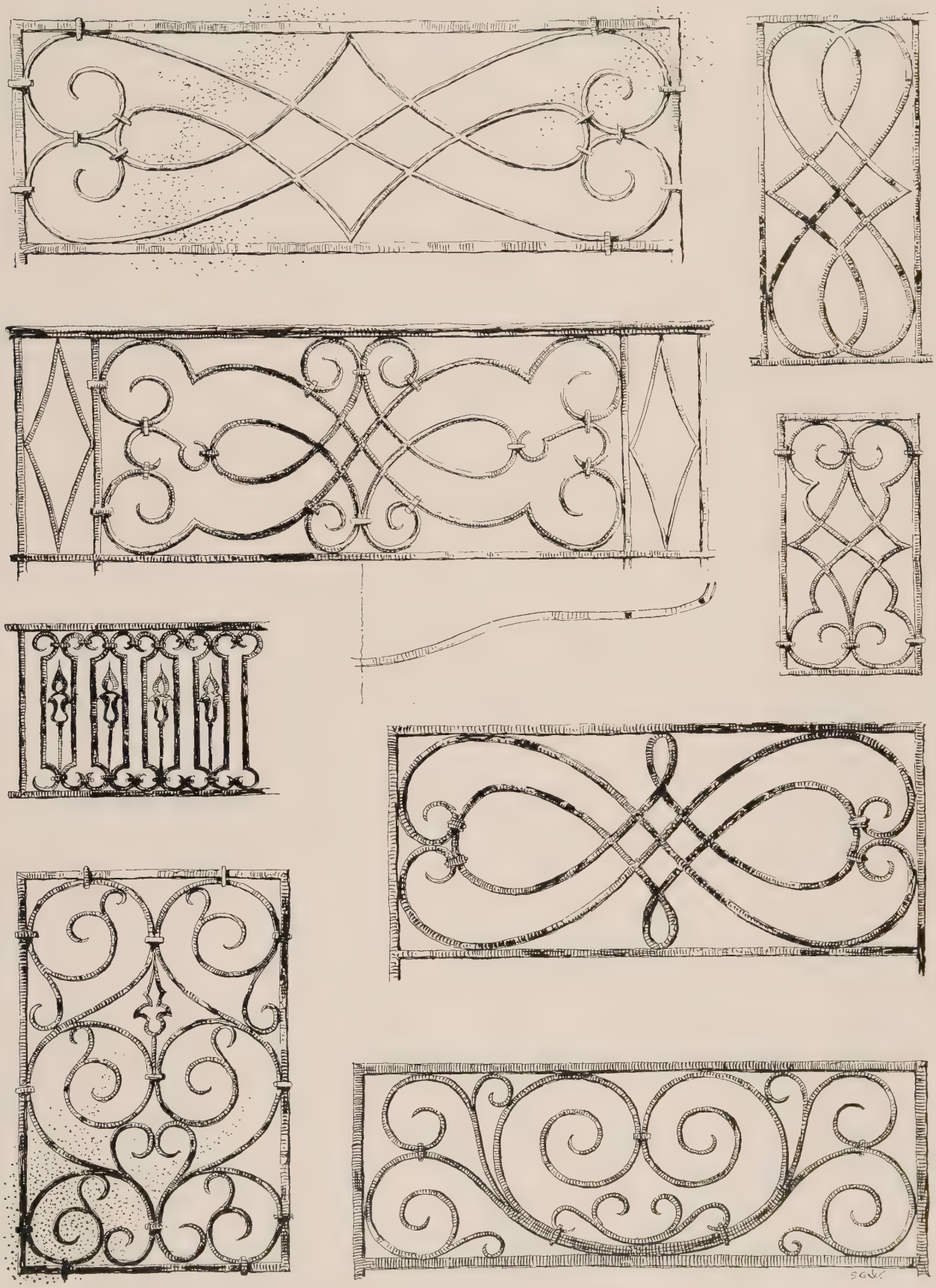
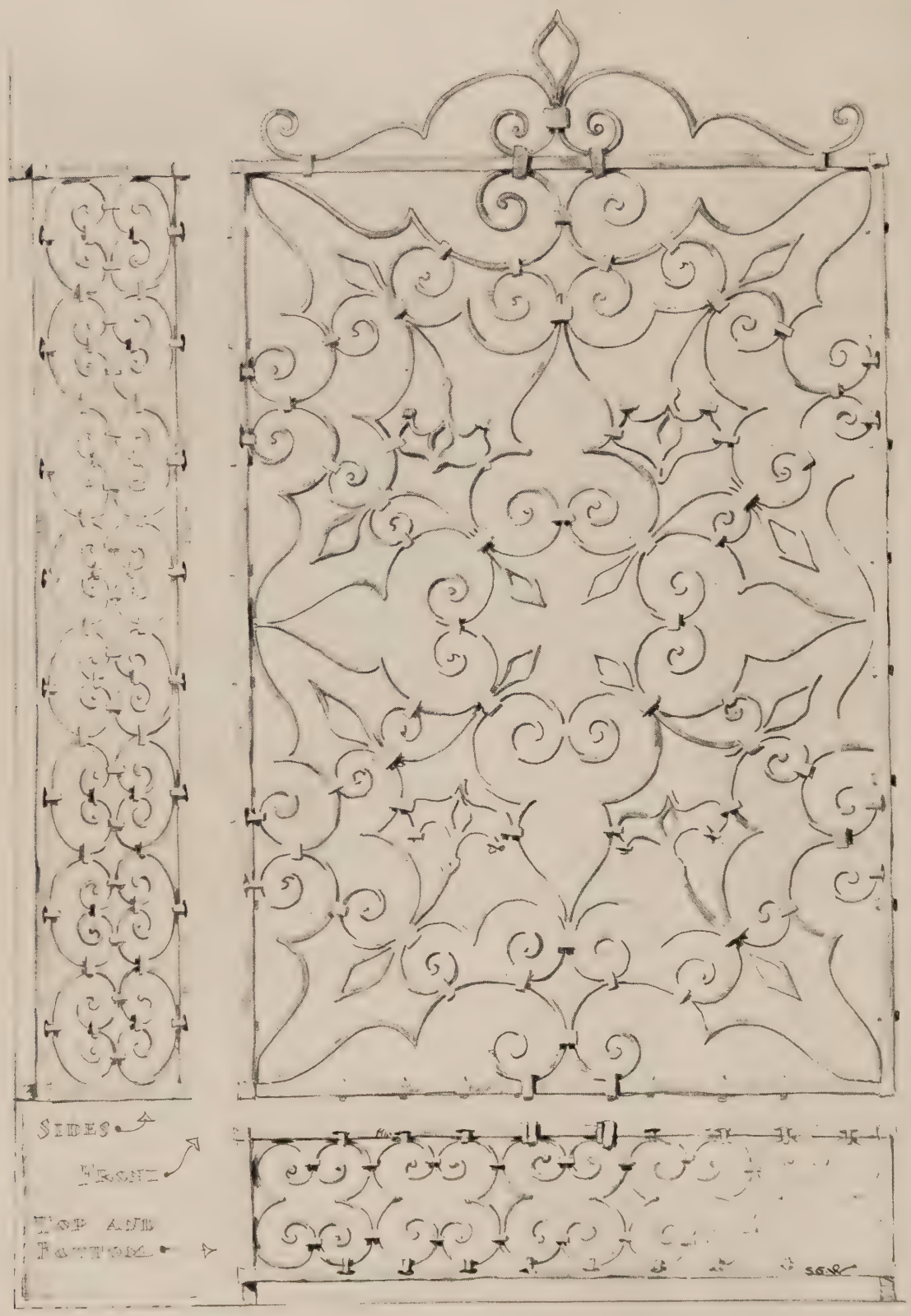
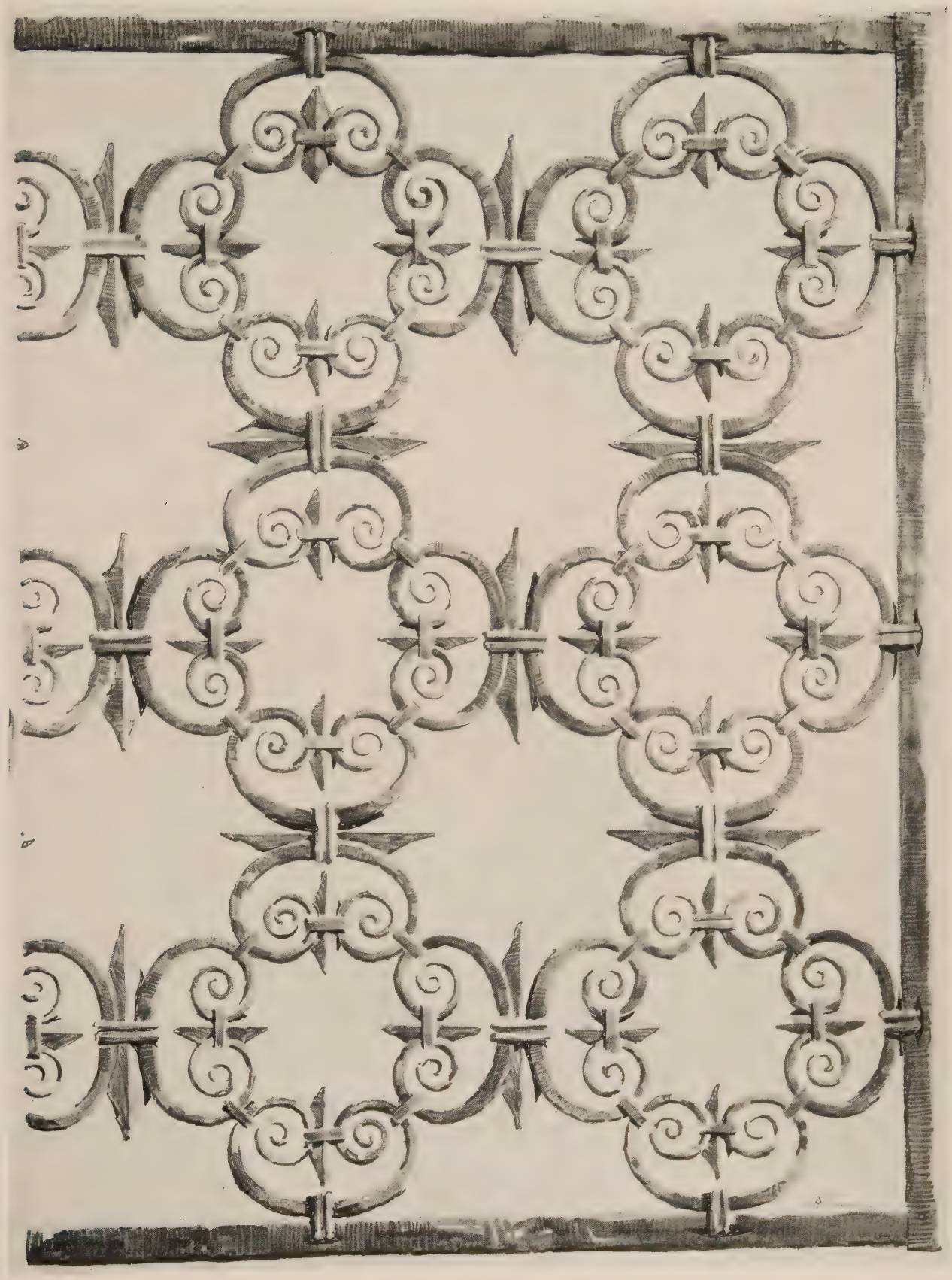


RENAISSANCE WROUGHT IRON



WROUGHT IRON WINDOW GRILLE

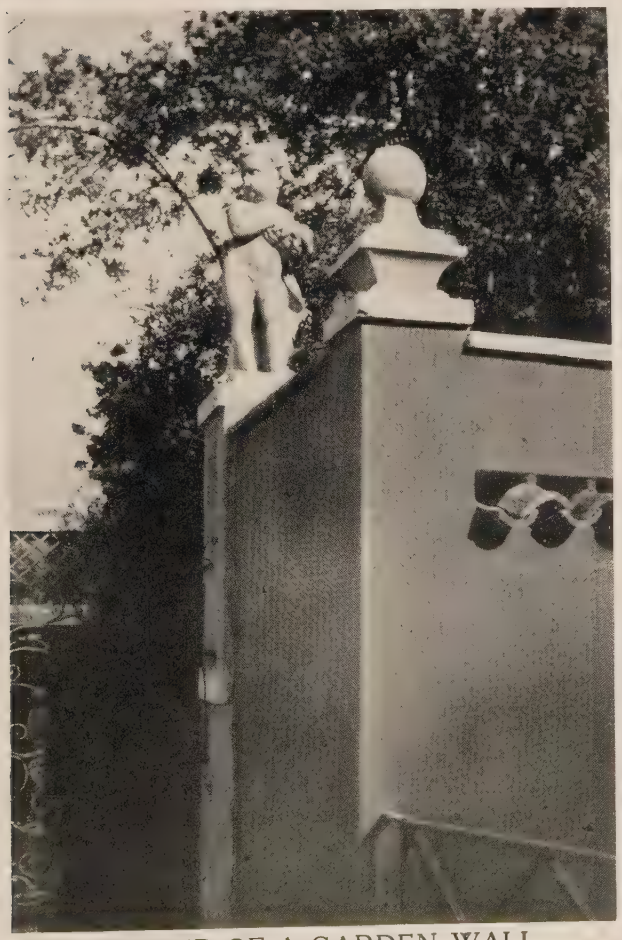


WROUGHT IRON DETAIL

ORNAMENTED COPINGS

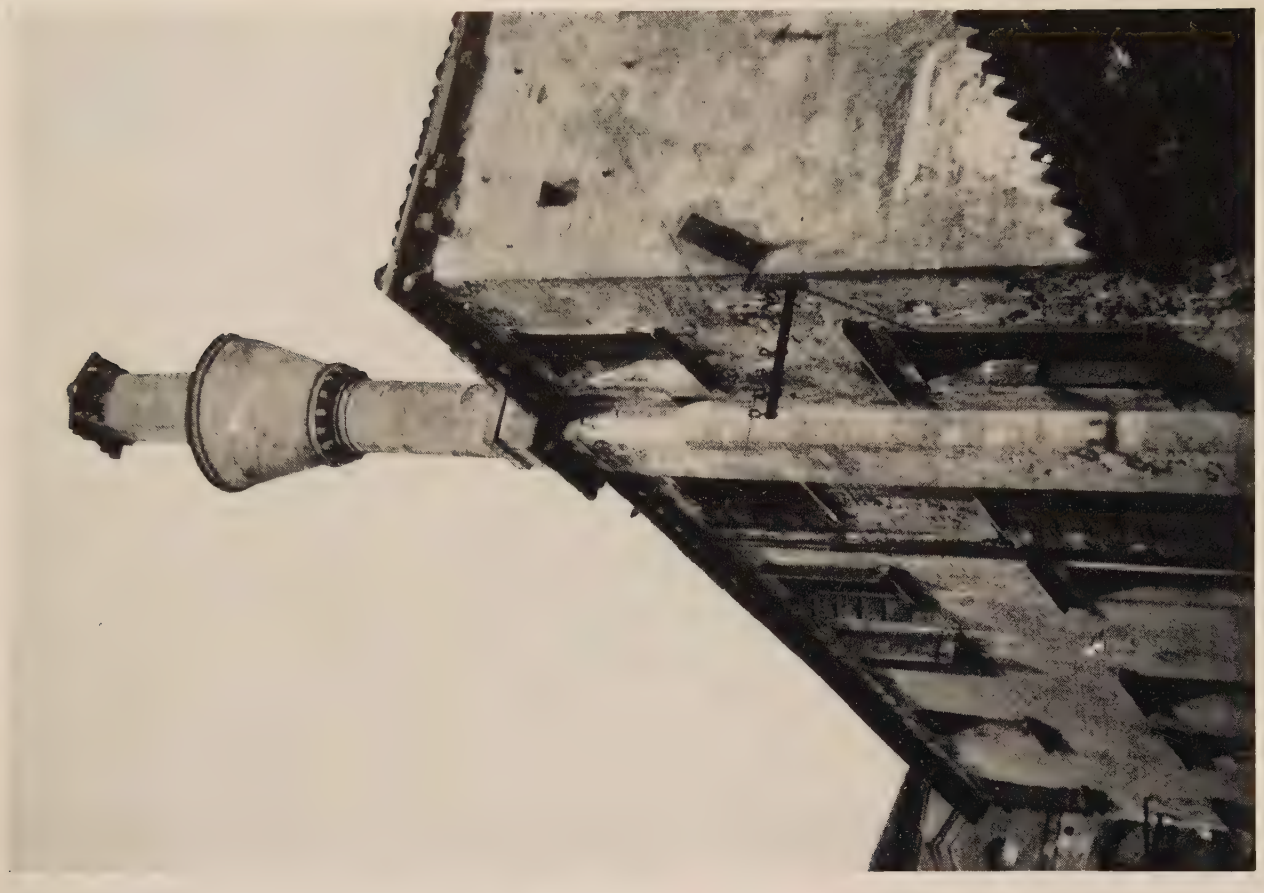
MONUMENTAL ARCH, NEAR MIRA

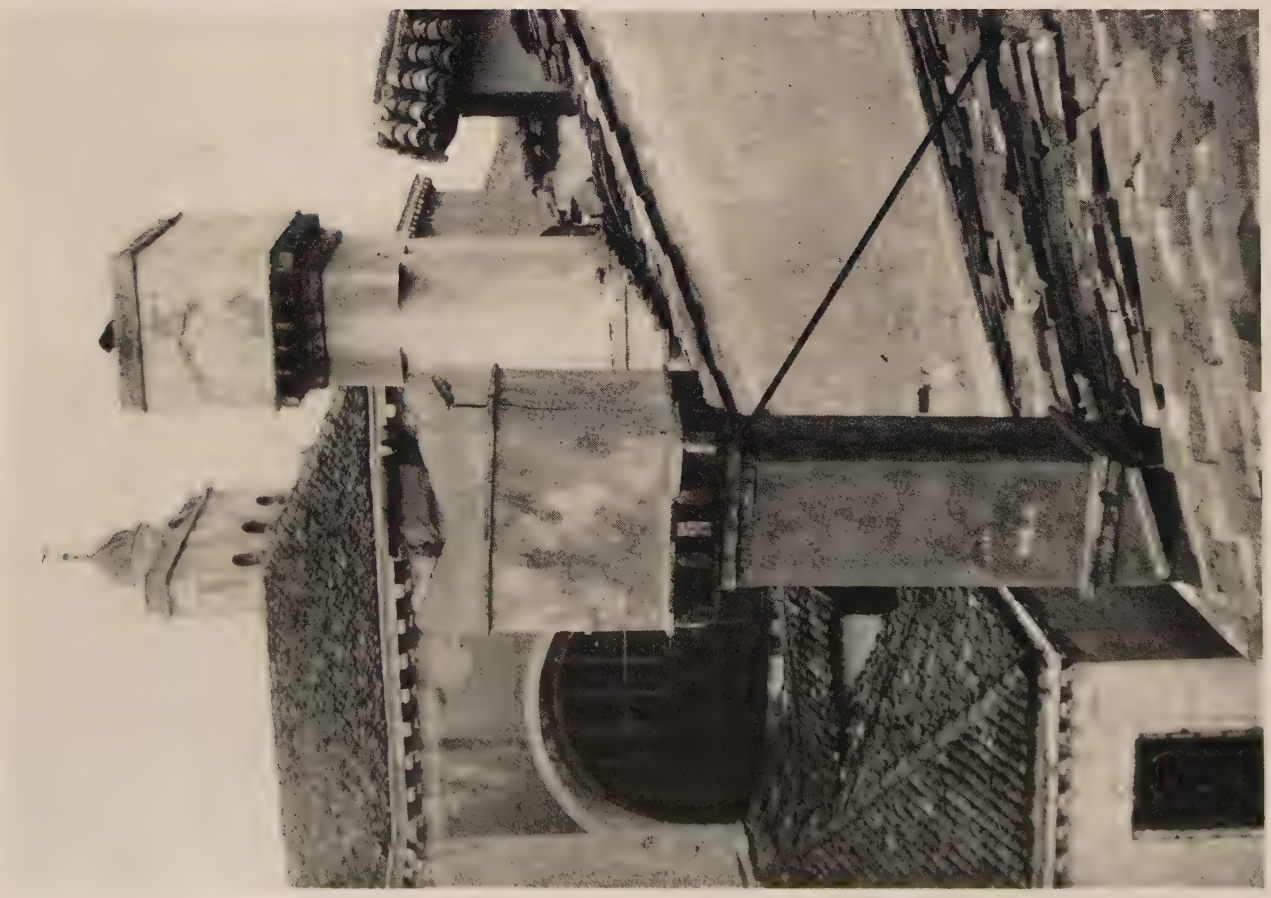
BAROQUE ENTRANCE, VILLA AT STRA



CORNER OF A GARDEN WALL

DECORATIVE WALL TREATMENT, STRA





ROOFS AND CORNICES

GARDEN GATE, NEAR PADUA

BELVEDERE, VILLA PISANI, STRA

BYZANTINE WELL HEADS

FOUR WELL HEADS

WELL HEADS

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